











# English Surnames.



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AN ESSAY

ON

## FAMILY NOMENCLATURE,

HISTORICAL, ETYMOLOGICAL, AND HUMOROUS;

WITH

SEVERAL ILLUSTRATIVE APPENDICES.

BY MARK ANTONY LOWER, M.A.

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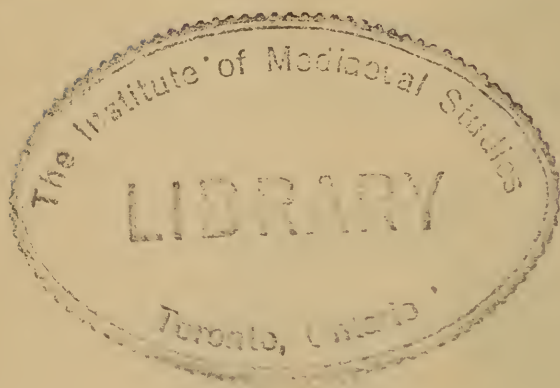
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## ERRATA.

- Vol. I, p. 32, line 27. *Dele* 'Hence the great,' &c.  
P. 35, line 12, *before* may mean, *read* this designation.  
Vol. II, p. 63, Note 1. *Grieve* in Scotland is not limited to the  
'superintendent of a coal-pit.' It is equivalent  
to Grave. See Vol. I, p. 130.  
P. 83, line 31, *for* names, *read* name.  
P. 96, line 3, *for* is, *read* are.  
P. 163, last line, *for* Register, *read* Registration.



# AN ESSAY ON ENGLISH SURNAMES.

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## CHAPTER I. OF HISTORICAL SURNAMES.

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“ Mieux que tout autre monument a-t-on dit, les noms héréditaires conservent le souvenir des ancêtres.”—SALVERTE.

“ Il y a peu de grandes maisons du Royaume qui n'ait *sa fable particulière sur son origine*.”—*Dictionnaire de la Noblesse*, 1783.

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Y an historical surname, I mean a name which has allusion to some circumstance in the history of the person who primarily bore it. In some cases the expression “accidental” would, perhaps, be more appropriate. Most

nations, antient and modern, have had surnames of this kind. Those of Scrophia and Asinia, borne by the families of the Tremellii and the Cornelii, have already been alluded to. To this class also belongs the surname of *Nestingum*, borne by a Saxon earl, in consequence of his having been rescued in infancy from the nest of an eagle. The Italian family of Santa-



Croce (Holy-cross) were so denominated from one of their ancestors having brought the wood of the true cross into Italy. In many instances the name has survived all remembrance of the circumstance in which it originated. *Beaufoy*, for example, was perhaps given primarily to a vassal who had shown some particular instance of fidelity to his feudal superior; while *Malfeyth* may have been attached to one who had been guilty of an act of treachery. *Makepeace*, again, was probably assigned to a person who had officiated as a mediator between two hostile parties. In many cases, however, the memory of the event has been transmitted to our own times by tradition or actual record, and guaranteed by the heraldic ensigns of the family. In general the event redounds to the prowess and valour of the original bearer, either at the Norman Conquest, in the Crusades, or some other military expedition; though occasionally it rather reflects disgrace. Many of the names which have been given to foundlings belong to this chapter. A few have relation to feudal tenures.

Among the surnames said to have originated at the battle of Hastings, and shortly afterwards, are those of *Fortescue*, *Eyre*, and *Osborne*.

The name of FORTESCUE is said to have been bestowed on Sir Richard le Forte ("the strong"), one of the leaders in the Conqueror's army, who had the good fortune to protect his chief at the battle of Hastings, by bearing before him a massive *escu* or shield. The noble family descended from this personage use, in allusion to this circumstance and to their name, the punning motto,—**Forte-Scutum salus Ducum**—"A strong shield is the safety of commanders."



The following traditionary anecdote belongs to the same date, and accounts for the name of EYRE :

“ The first of this family was named *Truelove*, but at the battle of Hastings, Oct. 14, 1066, William was flung from his horse, and his helmet beaten into his face, which Truelove observing, pulled off, and horsed him again. The duke told him, ‘ Thou shalt hereafter from Truelove be called *Eyre* (or Air), because thou hast given me the air I breathe.’ After the battle, the duke, on inquiry respecting him, found him severely wounded (his leg and thigh having been struck off), ordered him the utmost care, and, on his recovery, gave him lands in Derby in reward for his services, and the leg and thigh in armour, cut off, *for his crest*, an honorary badge yet worn by all the Eyres in England.”\*

There is more of romance than truth in this story, for it must strike the reader as very remarkable, that the personage of whom it is related—a Norman born and bred—should bear a cognomen so very English as True-love. The singular crest borne by his descendants must have originated from some more recent occurrence, as armorial bearings were not used for many years after the battle of Hastings. Still there may be *some* foundation for the tradition. The following has more appearance of credibility ; while it is unfortunate that the name to which it refers was borne as a Christian name much earlier than the date of the occurrence.

“ Walter, a Norman knight, and a great favourite of the king (William the First), playing at chess with that king on a summer evening, on the banks of the

\* Thorpe’s Catalogue of the Deeds of Battel Abbey, p. 106, note.

Ouse, won all he played for. The king threw down the board, saying he had nothing more to play for. 'Sir,' said Sir Walter, 'here is land.' 'There is so,' said the king, 'and if thou beatest me this game also, thine be all the land on this side the bourne or river, which thou canst see as thou sittest.' He *had* the good fortune to win; and the king, clapping him on the shoulder, said, 'Henceforth thou shalt be called *Ousebourne*.' Hence it is supposed came the name of Osborne."\*

As I give my authorities for these anecdotes, the burden of proof does not rest with me. And even if the reader should deem some of them destitute of any foundation in truth, he will perhaps agree with me that they are worthy of preservation as curious legends.

Among the Anglo-Saxon families who resisted the dominion of William, that of *Bulstrode* is said to have been conspicuous.

The head of that family was despoiled of his estate by the victorious Norman, who presented it to one of his own followers, and furnished him with a body of men to seize it by force. The Saxon called in the aid of some of his neighbours to defend his ancestral acres, and intrenched himself with an earthwork, which still exists to attest the truth of the story. It happened that the besieged possessed no horses, so that they were fain to bestride certain bulls which they had brought together within the inclosure; and thus mounted they made a sally, and completely routed their assailants. The king hearing of this gallant exploit, desired to see the heroes who had achieved it. The Saxon and his

\* Life of Corinna. Pegge's Curialia Miscellanea, p. 319.

seven sons, therefore, once more *bestrode* their *bulls* and proceeded to court, when William was so much delighted with the interview, that he permitted them to remain in undisturbed possession of the estate. Hence they acquired the name of *Bull-strode* ! “Cock and Bull !” will probably escape the lips of the reader at the perusal of this story, since *Bulstrode* is a local surname borrowed from the parish in Buckinghamshire where this marvellous victory is alleged to have taken place.

The following is said to be the origin of the surname of *TYNTE* : In the year 1192, at the battle of Ascalon, a young knight of the noble house of Arundel, clad all in white, with his horse’s howsings of the same colour, so gallantly distinguished himself on that memorable field, that Richard Cœur de Lion remarked publicly, after the victory, “that the maiden knight had borne himself as a lion, and done deeds equal to those of six *croisés* [crusaders], whereupon he conferred on him for arms, “*a lion gules on a field argent, between six cross-lets of the first,*” and for motto, *Tynctus cruore Saraceno*; “Stained, or dyed, with Saracen blood.” His descendants thence assumed the surname of *Tynte*, and settled in Somersetshire.\*

The name of *Lockhart* was originally given to a follower of Sir James, Lord Douglas, who accompanied him to the Holy Land with the heart of King Robert Bruce. In consequence of this event, some branches of the family bear a padlock enclosing a heart in their arms.

The thrice illustrious surname of *PLANTAGENET*,

\* Burke’s Commoners, vol. iv.

borne by eight successive kings of England,\* originated with Foulques or Fulke, Count of Anjou, who flourished in the twelfth century. This personage, to expiate some enormous crimes of which he had been guilty, went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and wore in his cap as a mark of his humility, a *planta genista* or broom-plant (which was sometimes used by his descendants as a crest), and on that account was surnamed Plantagenet. The ancient English family of *Broome* are said to be lineal descendants of this nobleman.

The surname of STRONGIMANUS, or *Strong-hand*, applied to William de Albini, Earl of Arundel, which did not, like the preceding, become hereditary, originated, according to Dugdale, in the following manner:

“It happened that the Queen of France being then a widow, and a very beautiful woman, became much in love with a knight of that country, who was a comely person, and in the flower of his youth; and because she thought that no man excelled him in valour, she caused a tournament to be proclaimed throughout her dominions, promising to reward those who should exercise themselves therein according to their respective demerits; and concluding, that if the person whom she so well affected, should act his part better than others in those military exercises, she might marry him without any dishonour to herself. Hereupon divers gallant men from forrain parts hasting to Paris, amongst others

\* Some authorities deny this, and allege that these sovereigns never used it. True; but this does not prove that Plantagenet was not their real family name. Her Majesty Queen Victoria has no occasion whatever for a surname (the design of which is to distinguish one family from another), and therefore it might with equal force be argued that her family name is not *Guelph*. Non-use does not imply non-possession.



came this our William de Albini, bravely accoutred, and in the tournament excelled all others, overcoming many, and wounding one mortally with his lance, which being observed by the queen, shee became exceedingly enamoured of *him*, and forthwith invited him to a costly banquet, and afterwards bestowing certain jewels upon him, offered him marriage; but having plighted his troth to the Queen of England, then a widow, he refused her, whereat she grew so much discontented, that she consulted with her maids how she might take away his life, and in pursuance of that design enticed him into a garden, where there was a secret cave, and in it a lion, unto which she descended by divers steps, under colour of showing him the beast; and when she told him of his fierceness, he answered, that it was a womanish and not a manly quality to be afraid thereof. But having him there, by the advantage of a folding door, she thrust him in to the lion; being therefore in this danger, he rolled his mantle about his arm, and putting his hand into the mouth of the beast, pulled out his tongue by the root; which done, he followed the queen to her palace, and gave it to one of her maids to present unto her. Returning thereupon to England, with the fame of this glorious exploit, he was forthwith advanced to the earldome of Arundel, and for his arms the LION given him." He subsequently obtained the hand of Queen Adeliza, relict of King Henry I, and daughter of Godfrey Duke of Lorraine, which Adeliza had the castle of Arundel in dowry from the deceased monarch, and thus her new lord became its feudal earl.

It is probable that such names as *Breakspeare*, *Shakespeare*, *Hurlbat*, *Winspear*, *Wagstaffe*, &c., originated in some forgotten feat of courage.

The Scottish name *Turnbull* is thus accounted for: "The first of the name with us is said to have been a strong man of the name of Ruel, who *turned a wild bull* by the head which violently ran against King Robert Bruce in Stirling Park, for which he got from that king the lands of Bedrule, and the name of *Turnbull*. Edward Howes, in his History of England, mentions this man in the minority of King David Bruce at the battle of Halidonhill. His words are, 'A certain stout champion of great stature, who, for a fact by him done, was called *Turnbull*, advanced before the Scots army, and a great mastiff dog with him, and challenged any of the English army to fight with him a combat; one Sir Robert Venal, a Norfolk man, by the king of England's leave, took him up, fought, and killed him, and his dog too.'"\* His descendants bore a bull's head as their arms (in more modern times altered to three bulls' heads), in allusion to the feat from which the name originated.

The Scottish family of DALZELL or DALZIEL bear for arms a denuded human figure. In old seals and paintings the man is represented as hanging from a gibbet, but this 'ensign of *honour*' (?) has been laid aside, and the figure alone is retained. "These (arms) of Dalziel," says Nisbet, "are said to perpetuate the memory of a brave and dangerous exploit performed by one of their progenitors, in taking down from a gibbet the body of a favourite and near kinsman of King Kenneth II; whether true or false it is all one, since it gave occasion to such a bearing. For, as the story goes, the king being exceedingly grieved that the body of his friend should be so disgracefully treated

\* Nisbet's System of Heraldry, vol. i, p. 332.

by his enemies, proffered a great reward to any of his subjects who would adventure to rescue it; but when none would undertake that hazardous enterprise, a valorous gentleman came and said to the king, *Dalziel*, which signifies, as I am informed by those who pretend to know the old Scots language, *I dare*; which attempt he effectually performed to the king's satisfaction. And his posterity took this remarkable bearing, and the word *Dalziel* for their surname, when surnames came to be used, with the signification thereof, *I dare*, for their motto: the crest being a sword in pale, proper; supporters, two men in armour, cap-a-pie, with round targets, now used by this ancient family.”\*

Scotland affords these historical surnames in a greater number than England, and as they have all become naturalized among the Southrons, no apology for their introduction here is necessary.

The great and widely-spread Scottish family of ARMSTRONG derive their surname from the following circumstance: “An ancient king of Scotland having his horse killed under him in battle was immediately remounted by Fairbairn, his armour-bearer. For this timely assistance the king amply rewarded him with lands on the borders, and to perpetuate the memory of so important a service, as well as the manner in which it was performed (for Fairbairn took the king by the thigh and set him on his saddle), his royal master gave him the appellation of *Armstrong*, and assigned him for crest—‘an armed hand and *arm*; in the left hand a leg and foot in armour, couped at the thigh all proper.’”†

The next anecdote has often appeared under various

\* Nisbet, vol. i, pp. 259-60.

† Burke's Commoners, vol. iv.

forms: I give it on the authority of a famous genealogist. "One of the antient Earls of Lennox, in Scotland, had issue three sons; the eldest succeeded him in the earldom; the second, whose name was Donald; and the third named Sillerist. The then king of Scots, having wars, did convocate his lieges to the battle. Amongst them that were commanded was the Earl of Lennox, who keeping his eldest son at home, sent his second son to serve for him with the forces under his command. The battle went hard with the Scots, for the enemy pressing furiously upon them, forced them to lose ground, until at last they fell to *flat running away*, which being perceived by Donald, he pulled his father's standard from the bearer thereof, and valiantly encountering the foe (being well followed up by the Earl of Lennox his men), he repulsed the enemy and changed the fortune of the day, whereby a great victory was got. After the battle, as the manner is, every one advancing and setting forth his own acts, the king said unto them, 'Ye have all done valiantly, but there is one amongst you who hath NA PIER!' (no equal,) and calling Donald into his presence, commanded him in regard of his worth, service, and augmentation of his honour, to change his name from Lennox to *Napier*, and gave him lands in Fife, and the lands of Goffurd, and made him his own servant."\*

The family traditions of Scotland abound in anecdotes of this kind. "The SKENES of that kingdom obtained this name," says Buchanan, "for killing a very big and fierce wolf at a hunting in company with the king

\* From a MS. temp. Charles I, written by Sir W. Segar, Garter king of arms, quoted in Burke's Commoners.



in Stocket forest in Athole ; having killed the wolf with a dagger or *skene*." His original name was Strowan. The COLLIERS, according to the same authority, borrow that appellative from an ancestor, having, when hotly pursued by his enemies, concealed himself in a coal-pit.

Some of their surnames originated in the sloggans, slug-horns, or war-cries used by the clans ; as in the case of the HALLIDAYS, an old family of the genuine Celtic blood, who settled in Annandale, and made frequent raids or marauding excursions on the English border. On these occasions they employed the war-cry of "*A Holy Day*;" every day in their estimation being holy that was spent in ravaging the enemy's country : hence the surname.

The name of HAY (Earl of Errol) is said to have been borrowed from the word of onslaught—'*Hay! Hay!*' used by the brave founder of that family when, assisted by only his two sons, he succeeded in beating back a whole army of Danes in the pass of Lancort, A.D. 942.

The name MAULEVERER was antiently written *Malus-Leporarius* or *Malevorer*, the "bad hare hunter," and tradition states that a Yorkshire gentleman being about to let slip a brace of greyhounds to run for a stake of considerable value, held them with so unskilful a hand as rather to endanger their necks than to expedite the capture of the hare. This deficiency of skill brought down upon him the nickname above mentioned, which thenceforward descended to his posterity, an everlasting memorial of his ignorance of hunting-craft. But that learned student in matters genealogical, Peter le Neve, Norroy king of arms, more rationally supposes it to be *Malus-operarius*, (in French *Mal-ouvrier*), because that in Doomsday Book (Essex,

p. 94) occurs the following entry: "Terra Adamis, filii Durandi de Malis Operibus," which I translate, the land of Adam the son of Durand of the Evil Deeds! no enviable surname, in truth, if it corresponded to the character of the original bearer. The arms of the family, however, seem to support the tradition: they are '*Sable, three greyhounds, courant in pale, argent.*'

Several of the names in the various copies of the Roll of Battel Abbey have *Mal* or *Mau* as their first syllable, and some of them probably belong to the class under elucidation. *Maucouvenant* was probably imposed upon some one for having on some special occasion violated his word; and *Mautenant* may refer to some forgotten act of infidelity on the part of its primitive owner. Upon *Malemis*, *Maumasin*, and some others, it would be hazardous to speculate; while *Mauclerc* ('bad scholar'), *Maurewarde* ('bad-look'), and *Maulovel* ('bad little wolf') belong to another category, and might have been included in my sixteenth chapter. MALVOISIN or MAUVESYN is, strictly speaking, a local surname, but its origin is so singular that it deserves a place among these anecdotes. Our old historians inform us that when a besieging army erected a tower or castle near the place besieged, such castle was called, in French, a *Malvoisin* or 'dangerous neighbour' to the enemy, because it threatened to cut him off from all possibility of relief. In the northern district of the Isle of France, not far from the banks of the Seine, some time stood one of those awful bulwarks, from which the great ancestor of the English family, who was lord of the neighbouring domain of Rosny, received his surname.\*

\* Burke's Commons; whence also the two following anecdotes.

This name has its antithesis—*Beauvesyn*, ‘good neighbour,’ referring probably to the kindly disposition of the first bearer of it.

Tradition is at best but “an uncertain voice,” and many of the foregoing stories are probably mere “figments of fanciful brains.” Such, doubtless, is that which follows, as *TYRWHITT* is a local name. A knight of Northumberland, who lived in the time of Henry I, being severely wounded in defending a bridge single-handed against a host of assailants, fell exhausted the moment he had forced them to retire, amongst the flags and rushes of an adjacent swamp, where he would probably have perished had not the attention of his party, who in the mean time had rallied, been directed to the spot where he lay by the vociferations of a flock of *tyrwhitts* or lapwings, which had been disturbed by his fall. Hence, says the story, the wounded Sir Hercules received his surname. This tradition possibly originated in the canting arms borne by the family, which are, Gules, three *tyrwhitts* or lapwings *or*, and the crest, which represents an athletic human figure defending himself with a club.

The next anecdote is about as true as the foregoing, with less point in it. At a remote period (that is to say, “once upon a time”) the head of a certain family having quarrelled with another gentleman, they agreed, as was the fashion, to settle the dispute by single combat in the pound-fold at Alnwick; and such was the deadly hate that influenced them both, that having procured the *key* of the inclosure they locked themselves in, determined not to quit the spot until one should have slain the other. The gentleman first referred to having come off victorious, to escape the vengeance of his enemy’s partisans, leaped over the

wall of the fold, and escaped to Newcastle-upon-Tyne. From the affair of the *key* he was afterwards called *Key* or *Cay*, the name still borne by his descendants. A lame story truly!

Some few surnames have originated from absurd and servile tenures under the Norman kings. Thierry says, "Those among the Saxons who after much servile crouching succeeded in preserving some slender portion of their patrimony, were obliged to pay for this favour by degrading and fantastic services. . . . One woman is left in the enjoyment of the estate of her husband on condition of feeding the king's dogs. And a mother and son receive their antient inheritance as a *gift*, on condition of their offering up daily prayers for the king's son Richard. "Hoc manerium tenuit Aldene teignus R. E. et vendere potuit, sed W. rex dedit hoc m. huic Aldene et matri ejus pro animâ Ricardi filii sui."\* From a similar tenure originated the name of *PATERNOSTER*. In the time of Edward the First, *Alyce Paternoster* held lands at Pusey, in Berkshire, by the service of saying the paternoster, or Lord's prayer, *five times a day*, for the souls of the king's ancestors; and Richard Paternoster, on succeeding to the same estate, did not present the fee usual on such occasions—a red rose, a gilt spur, a pound of pepper, or a silver arrow—but went upon his knees before the baronial court and devoutly repeated the 'Pater noster qui es in cœlis,' &c. for the *manes* of the illustrious dead before mentioned; and the like, we are told, had previously been done by his brother, John Paternoster of Pusey.†—Among the surnames

\* Thierry, Norm. Conq., Edit. Whitaker, p. 123. Doomsday, fol. 1, ver. 141.

† Vide Blount's Tenures.



of this kind we have that of AMEN, which, I suppose, originated in some equally absurd and irreligious custom. Delicacy almost forbids the mention of another name, PETTOUR, which was given to *Baldwin le Pettour*, who held his lands in Suffolk “per saltum, sufflum, et pettum, sive bumbulum,” that is, as Camden translates it, “for dancing, pout-puffing, and doing that before the king of England in Christmasse holidayes which the word \* \* \* signifieth in French.”

In a royal wardrobe account, made towards the termination of the thirteenth century, and preserved in the British Museum,\* is the following curious entry: “1297, Dec. 26. To MAUD MAKEJOY for dancing before Edward, prince of Wales, in the King’s Hall, at Ipswich, 2s.” Here the surname evidently took its rise from the pleasure which the saltations of this ancient *figurante* afforded the royal personage. As this name does not occur in modern times it is probable that the lady lost it in marriage.

Camden relates that a certain Frenchman who had craftily smuggled one T. Crioll, a great feudal lord of Kent about the time of Edward II, out of France into his own country, received from the grateful nobleman a good estate called Swinfield, and (in commemoration of the *finesse* he had displayed on the occasion) the name of FINEUX; which became the surname of his descendants—a family who attained considerable eminence in England.†

In the late Mr. Davies Gilbert’s‡ ‘History of Corn-

\* Addit. MSS. 7965.

† Remaines, p. 117.

‡ This venerable, learned, and much-lamented gentleman paid considerable attention to Surnames. Among other conversations which the humble writer of these pages had the honour of enjoying with him, within a week of his somewhat unexpected demise, these formed the topic of a very agreeable colloquy.

wall,' is an anecdote of a pretty Cornish maiden, the daughter of a shepherd, who by a concatenation of fortunate circumstances, almost without parallel, became (by three several marriages) the richest woman in England, and a connexion of several of its most dignified families. On this account she received the appropriate surname of *BONAVENTURA* or *Goodluck*. She was born about the year 1450.

*Alfray* (or Fright-all) was the surname of a Sussex worthy, who died in the reign of Elizabeth. As he was in point of rank a gentleman, and as no mention occurs in his pedigree of any progenitor bearing the same name, it has been conjectured that the surname was adopted by him in reference to some extraordinary strength of limb he possessed. Though there is great improbability in the supposition of so recent an assumption of a surname, it receives partial support from his epitaph on a brass plate in the choir of Battel church. The quaintness of this memorial may render the full inscription acceptable to those who admire the curiosities of tombstone literature.

“ Thomas Alfraye, good courteous frend,  
 Interred lyeth heere,  
 Who so in *active strength did passe*  
*As none was found his peere !*  
 And Elizabeth did take to wyfe,  
 One Ambrose Comfort's child,  
 Who with him thyrtye one yeares lyvid  
 A virtuous spouse and mild;  
 By whom a sonne and daughter eke,  
 Behind alyue he left,  
 And eare he fiftie yeares had rune  
 Death hym of lyfe bereft.  
 On Neweyeaes day of Christe his birth  
 Which was just eighty-nine,  
 One thousand and fue hundreth eke,  
 Loe here of flesh the fine.

But then his wooful wyfe, of God  
With piteous praiers gann crave,  
That her own corps with husbande hers  
Might ioine in darksome graue,  
And that her soule his soule might seek  
Amongst the saints aboue,  
And there in endless blysse enjoye  
Her long desired loue ;  
The whiche her gracious God did graunt,  
To her of Marche the last,  
When after that deuorcement sower  
One yere and more was past."

There is a tradition that 'a certain gentleman' was compelled, during some popular commotion, to quit his residence in the north of England and to seek safety in flight ; but so sudden was his departure that he was unable to provide himself with money, for want of which, in his journey southward, he might have perished, had he not fortunately found on the highway a *glove* containing a *purse* well stored with gold. How the purse came there, or how the finder satisfied his conscience in appropriating its contents, the tradition does not state. It merely adds, that deeming an *alias* to his name necessary, he, in allusion to the circumstance, adopted the surname of PURSEGLOVE, which is not yet extinct. What credit can be attached to this story I know not : certain it is that many years before the event is supposed to have occurred, there was a Thomas Pursglove (or Purslow, as his name was sometimes spelt), bishop of Hull.

There are certain compound surnames which may with great probability be referred to this class, although the circumstances from which they originated have, in the lapse of ages, been lost sight of. Of this order is POINDEXTER, which, however, does not signify 'right

hand' as has been stated, but is, according to Mr. Talbot,\* "an old Norman name meaning 'Spur the Steed,' and analogous to Hotspur." It comes, he adds, from two old words which Wace often uses in the *Roman de Rou*; the first meaning 'to spur,' from the Latin 'pungo;' and the second 'a steed or courser,' in French 'destrier,' and in Italian 'destriere.'

The French name VA-LA-VOIR ('Go and see') proved fatal to one of its bearers. The story is related in Smollett's '*Adventures of an Atom*.' One Count Valavoir under the command of the celebrated Turenne, walking round the camp after nightfall, passed the post of a sentinel, who, as in duty bound, challenged him with the usual "Who goes there?" to which the officer promptly replied *Valavoir*. The soldier deeming the answer a piece of insolence, twice repeated the challenge, and twice again received the same response, until, enraged beyond endurance, he levelled his musket, and, *horribile dictu*, shot the bearer of this most unfortunate cognomen dead upon the spot.

Many of the names given to *foundlings* might be classed with historical surnames. A poor child picked up at the town of Newark-upon-Trent, received from the inhabitants the whimsical name of *Tom Among us*. Becoming a man of eminence, he changed his name for the more euphonious one of DR. THOMAS MAGNUS. He was employed in several embassies, and, in gratitude to the good people of Newark, he erected a grammar-school there, which still exists.†

At Doncaster there is a person named *Found*, whose grandfather's grandfather was a foundling. *Inventus* occurs in the register of that parish as a surname.

\* English Etymol. p. 301.

† Camd. Rem. p. 128.



The following was related to me by a gentleman, one of whose friends witnessed the occurrence. A poor child who had been found in the high-road, and conveyed to the village workhouse, being brought before the parish vestry to receive a name, much sage discussion took place, and many brains were racked for an appropriate cognomen. As the circumstance happened in the "month of flowers and song," a good-natured farmer suggested that the poor child should be christened *John May*; a proposition in which several of the vestrymen concurred. One of the clique, however, more aristocratic than his neighbours, was of opinion that that was far too good a name for the ill-starred brat, and proposed in lieu of it that of JACK PARISH—the designation that was eventually adopted!

In the month of October, 1760, a male child which had been exposed, was picked up near Shepherd's Bush, Hammersmith, and was baptized on the 19th of that month, by the name of *Thomas Shepherd's Bush*.\*

I shall conclude these anecdotes with another on the name of a foundling. There now resides at no great distance from Lewes, a farmer whose family name is *Brooker*, to which the odd dissyllable of *Napkin* is prefixed as a Christian name. Both these names he inherits from his grandfather, a foundling, who was exposed at some place in Surrey, tied up in a *napkin* and laid on the margin of a *brook*; and who—as no traces of his unnatural parents could be found—received the very appropriate, though somewhat cacophonous name of NAPKIN BROOKER!

\* Faulkner's Hammersmith.

## NOTE ON NAMES GIVEN TO FOUNDLINGS.

The following extract from Brownlow's 'Chronicles of Foundling Hospital,' while it may amuse the lovers of *nominal* curiosities, will also serve to show how certain illustrious surnames have become the property of persons occupying very humble stations in society.

"It has been the practice of the governors from the earliest period to the present time to name the children at their own will and pleasure whether their parents should have been known or not. At the baptism of the children first taken into the Hospital, which was on the 29th of March, 1741, it is recorded that 'there was at the ceremony a fine appearance of persons of quality and distinction; his grace the Duke of Bedford, our president, their graces the Duke and Duchess of Richmond, the Countess of Pembroke, and several others, honouring the children with their names and being their sponsors.' Thus the register of this period presents the courtly names of *Abercorn, Bedford, Bentinck, Montague, Marlborough, Newcastle, Norfolk, Pomfret, Pembroke, Richmond, Vernon*, &c. &c., as well as those of numerous other living individuals great and small, who at that time took an interest in the establishment. When these names were exhausted, the authorities stole those of eminent deceased personages, their first attack being upon the church. Hence we have a *Wickliffe, Huss, Ridley, Latimer, Laud, Sancroft, Tillotson, Tennison, Sherlock*, &c. Then come the mighty dead of the poetical race, viz. *Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakspeare, John Milton*, &c. Of the philosophers, *Francis Bacon* stands pre-eminently conspi-

cuous. As they proceeded, the governors who were warlike in their notions, brought from their graves Philip *Sidney*, Francis *Drake*, Oliver *Cromwell*, John *Hampden*, Admiral *Benbow*, and Cloudesley *Shovel*. A more peaceful list followed this, viz. Peter Paul *Rubens*, Anthony *Vandyke*, Michael *Angelo*, and Godfrey *Kneller*, William *Hogarth* and Jane his wife, of course, not being forgotten. Another class was borrowed from popular novels of the day, which accounts for Charles *Allworthy*, Tom *Jones*, Sophia *Western*, and *Clarissa Harlowe*. The gentle *Izaak Walton* stands alone. So long as the admission of children was confined within reasonable bounds it was an easy matter to find names for them; but during the ‘parliamentary era’ of the Hospital, when its gates were thrown open to all comers, and each day brought its regiment of *infantry* to the establishment, the governors were sometimes in difficulties; and when this was the case they took a zoological view of the subject, and named them after the creeping things and beasts of the earth, or created a nomenclature from various handicrafts or trades. In 1801, the hero of the Nile, and some of his friends, honoured the establishment with a visit, and stood sponsors to several of the children. The names given on this occasion were, *Baltic Nelson*, William and Emma *Hamilton*, Hyde *Parker*, &c. Up to a very late period the governors were sometimes in the habit of naming the children after themselves or their friends; but it was found to be an inconvenient and objectionable course, inasmuch as when they grew to man or womanhood they were apt to lay claim to some affinity of blood with their nomenclators. The present practice, therefore, is for the treasurer to prepare a list of ordinary names, by which the children are baptized.”



## CHAPTER II.

OF SURNAMES WHICH CANNOT BE REFERRED TO ANY OF  
THE PRECEDING CLASSES.

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“Sunt bona—sunt quædam mediocria—sunt mala plura.”—MARTIAL.

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ALTHOUGH we have discussed our family nomenclature somewhat multifariously, and have said little or much, as each subject demanded, upon surnames, geographical, topographical, professional, official, characteristic, *prænominal*, heraldical, emblematical or signal, social or relational, choral, opprobrious, dramatic, *sobriquetical*, adjurational, and historical, there yet remain many names which scarcely any amount of ingenuity would enable one to interweave into those classes. I shall therefore merely indicate them, without attempting to explain their origin, or theorize upon their application. This part of the subject doubtless has its *rationale* as well as the foregoing, but it lies beyond my reach.

One family of names which thus baffles even conjecture is that which represents COINS and denominations of MONEY, as *Farthing*, *Halfpenny*, *Penny*, *Two-penny*, *Thickpenny*, *Money-penny*, *Manypenny*, *Penny-*



*more, Money, Grote, Tester, Ducat, and Pound*; also *Pringle* and *Bodle*, two obsolete Scottish coins. The last, however, may be a corruption of Bothwell, as the name of the coin was adopted from that of the person. *Angel, Noble, and Mark*, although names of coins, are referable to other classes of names already discussed.

There are two other compounds of PENNY, viz. *Hankpenny*, of whose etymology I know nothing, and *Godspenny*, a northern provincialism for the usual deposit made to bind a bargain.

Upon a person named Penny some one wrote, by way of epitaph, the following distich :

“ Reader, if cash thou art in want of any,  
Dig four feet deep, and thou shalt find a PENNY.”

Another group of family names, equally difficult to account for, is that which corresponds with terms expressive of the various STATES OF THE AIR, viz. *Rainy, Thunder, Storm, Frost, Snow, Hail* (with *Hailstone*), *Fog, Tempest, Showers, Breeze, Gale, Mist, Dew, Sunshine, Fairday, Fineweather, Fairweather, and Merryweather* !

Other names express certain NUMBERS, as *Six, Ten, Eighteen, Forty* ; with *Once and Twice, Second and Third, Double and Treble* !

These names appear so absurd that they might readily be pronounced corruptions of other words, had we not examples of similar appellations in other countries. There were lately at Rome two cardinals called *Settantadue* and *Quarantotto*, the Italian for ‘seventy-two’ and ‘forty-eight.’ The name of the eminent sculptor, *Trentanove*, signifies ‘thirty-nine ;’ and in Belgium there is a family called *Vilain Quatorze*, or ‘fourteenth-rascal !’

Some represent MEASURES, both of length and

capacity, as *Measures, Furlong, Cubitt, Yard, Halfyard,* and *Inches* ; also *Gill, Gallon, Peck, Bag,* and *Bushell.*

A few seem to refer to SPORTS and AMUSEMENTS, as *Ball, Bowles, Cricket, Dodd, Cards, Whist, Fairplay,* and *Playfair.* *Dodd*, however, may be from ‘*Doda*,’ an Anglo-Saxon name, and *Card*, I have elsewhere shown, means a tinker. *Dyce* does not belong to this list, for *De Dice* or *Diss* is a local surname of high antiquity, borrowed from the town of *Diss*, co. Norfolk.\*

A trio represent paces : *Trot, Gallop, Canter !*

*Ship, Cutter, Barge, Boat, Galley,* and *Wherry,* with *Anchor,* are probably from Inn Signs (Chapter XI), but we can scarcely assume as much of *Deck, Keel, Forecastle, Locker, Tackle, Rope, Cable, Cuddy, Mast, Helm,* and *Rudder.*

From PREDILECTIONS : *Loveday, Lovegrove, Loveland, Lovethorpe.*

From DISEASES : *Cramp, Collick, Toothacher, (!) Headache,* and *Ague.* *Fever* is the old French, *Lefevre* (smith), and *Akinhead, Akinside* (perhaps also *Headache*), are more probably local, as the A.-S. ‘*Ac*,’ an oak, enters into the composition of many names of places.

Last but not least among these curiosities of nomenclature, are those surnames which correspond with PARTS of the HUMAN FIGURE. These are somewhat numerous. There were lately living in a very small village in Sussex, three cottagers bearing the singular names of *Head, Body,* and *Shoulders,* while their near neighbour (a thousand pardons !) was *Gutsall*, a licensed victualler ! It may not be unamusing to classify this description of names according to their proper position in the human frame, thus :

\* Vide Chron. *Josceline de Brakelonde*, printed by the Camden Society, pref. viii.

HEAD, with its numerous compounds (already accounted for), with *Pate* and *Skull*, *Face* and *Forehead*! *Hair* (also *Haire*), and that of various colours.

*Cheeke*.

*Mouth*, *Lipp*, *Tongue*, *Teeth*, *Tooth*, and—*Gumboil*! *Chin*, and *Beard*, of various hues.

It must not be imagined that I have overlooked the *nose*:—that is too prominent a feature to be forgotten. I am not aware, however, of any person's having borne this name since the days of Publius Ovidius *Naso*, unless indeed *Ness*, a modern surname, may be considered equivalent to 'nesse' or 'nese,' the old English form of the word. It sometimes occurs in composition with other words, as *Thicknesse*, 'thick-nose,' *Longness*, 'long-nose,' and *Filtnesse*, which, if I may be allowed a jocular etymology, is no other than "foedus nasus;" or, in plain English, *foul-nose*! Having thus disposed of the head, let us descend to the

*Neck* and *Shoulders*, and thence to the

*Body*, (whose compounds, such as *Goodbody*, *Freebody*, and *Handsomebody*, belong to the category of moral and personal characteristics or qualities—see Chapter VIII.)

*Side*, *Back*, *Bones*, and *Skin*.

*Joint*, *Marrow*, and *Blood*.

*Heart*, (with *Greatheart*, *Goodheart*, &c.)

*Belly*, *Bowell*, and *Kidney*, with its *Fat*.

*Arms*, *Hands*, *Fist*, *Nailes*!

Next, in respect of the 'nether man,'

*Shanks*, and *Legge*,\* with its *Kneebone*. In our downward progress we pass the *Shin*, and the

\* This may have been a *sign*. In an old ballad called 'London's Ordinary,' we read:—

"The hosiers will dine at the *Leg*,

The drapers at the sign of the *Brush*, &c."

*Foote*, with its

*The*, *Heele*, and *Sole*, where having reached 'terra firma,' we remain as much in the dark as ever as to the motives which led our whimsical ancestors to the adoption or imposition of such very absurd and extraordinary surnames.

A few names have been borrowed from a still more trivial source, namely, the parts of the inferior animals, such as *Horne*, *Wing*, *Pinyon*, *Quill*, *Feather*, *Scutt*, *Beak*, *Shell*, and *Crowfoot*! *Maw*, which might have been placed in this list, does not belong to it, for 'The Doctor' tells us that "the name of Mc Coghlan is in Ireland beautified and abbreviated into *Maw*; the Mc Coghlan, or head of the family, was called *the Maw*; and a district of King's County was known within the memory of persons now living by the appellation of the *Maw's county*."

There are certain other names of common objects which have become surnames—in what manner I shall not attempt to conjecture. I select a few:—

*Chaff*, *Seeds*, *Sheath*, *Candy*, *Bratt*, (!) *Cracknell*, *Dram*, *Lintell*, *Pummell*, *Record*, *Wire*.

*Pettigrew* is an antique spelling of 'pedigree.' *Palsgrave* has "Petygrewe, genealogy."

Some proceed from other NOUNS of the intangible class, as, *Profit*, *Loss*, *Gain*, *Zeal*, *Refuge*, *Service*, *Paradise*, *Sleep*, *Slumber*, *Wink*, *Shade*, *Wedlock*, *Kiss*, (a lawyer), *Buss* (a doctor), *Cant*, (!) *Delight*, and *Good-singing*!

Here are a couple of PRONOUNS: *Thee* and *Self*.

A few VERBS: *Swear*, *Revere*, *Chew*, *Droop*, *Strain*, *Trundle*, *Tripp*, *Can*, *Vex*, *Stray*, *Speak*, *Twist*, *Pluck*, *Touch*.

ADVERBIAL: *Inwards*, *Upwards*.



A CONJUNCTION '*And.*' (This family bear for coat-armour an & !)

SOME PARTICIPLES: *Smitten, Blest, Blessed; Painting, Twining, Going, Pointing, Healing, Weeding, Hearing, Chopping, Cutting, Living, Dining, and Withering.* (Some of these are probably *local.*) *Dunbibbin* should join the Temperance Society.

The following names, which look like *compounds* of two or more common words, may be 'set down' among our nominal curiosities, although I have no doubt that more etymological skill, and a more extensive knowledge of our topographical nomenclature than I possess, might place many of them in another chapter:

*Bread-cutt, Dry-cutt, and Not-cutt.*

*Wat-one and Anyone. Somany.*

*Cow-van, Buck-tooth, Peg-ram, Good-ram, Buck-mill, Bull-pits.*

*Cut-love, Chil-man and Chil-maid. Popkiss.\**

*Middle-mist, Middle-ditch, and Middle-stitch.*

*Widd-up, Mete-yard, Two-potts, and Tack-a-berry.*

*Horniman, Horniblow, Hornabrook, and Hornbuckle.*

*Hathaway and Hadaway.*

*Whole-work, Conquer-good, Hang-itt !*

*Bow-skill, Win-cup, Bag-well, and Stil-fox.*

*Cut-bush, Willo-shed, Ivy-leaf, Bean-skin, Hard-bean, and Twelve-trees !*

*Cook-worthy, Wed-all, Mother-all.*

*Way-good, Go-first, Send-first, How-ge-go ?*

*I-fill and U-drink !*

*U-lier !*

\* As *Hotchkiss* is, in all probability, a corruption of *Hodgkins*, *Popkiss* may be derived from some "nurse name" in the same way. Corruptions do not usually proceed upon any principles of analogy; otherwise we might expect to find *Makins* converted into *May-kiss*, and *Wilkins* into *Will-kiss* !

*Far-wig*,\* *Shave-all*, and *Wig-sell*: rather barberous.  
*Groundwater*, *Maid-man*, *Bind-loose*, *No-yes*, *Boy-man*,  
*Fair-foul*: rather paradoxical.  
*Some-dry*, *Dry-wood*, *Burn-up*, and *Doubt-fire* !  
*Lin-skill*, *Has-luck*, *Roll-fuss*.  
*Hay-lord*, *Man-maker*, *Hay-digger*.  
*Cope-stake*, *Nettle-ship*, *Row-clippen*, *Bout-flower*.  
*Kog-nose*, *So-thin* ! *Pull-her* !  
*Flash-man*, *Bob-king*, *London-such* !  
*Red-year*, *Sam-ways*, *Half-hide*, *Hare-bread*.  
*Pea-body*, *Bean-bulk*, *Cheese-wright*, and *Honey-loom*.  
*Full-away*, *Thick-broom*, *Leather-barrow*.  
*Dip-stale*, *Dip-rose*, and *Dip-lock*.  
*Bird-whistle*, *Spar-shot* and *Buck-thought*.  
*Tram-pleasure*: a railway traveller ?  
*Small-piece*, *Pickfat*, *Make-rich*, *Weed-all*, *Met-calf*,  
*Good-year*, *Look-up*, *Quick-fall*, *Lilly-low*, and *Cut-mutton* !

\* This is local, perhaps; Farwig, near Bromley, co. Kent.



## CHAPTER III.

### OF PROVINCIALISMS IN SURNAMES.



OME counties and districts have peculiar surnames, which are rarely found beyond their limits. These are often of the local class, and the tenacity with which they cleave to the soil which gave them birth is truly remarkable.

The Rev. G. Oliver remarks\* that *Ellerker*, *Legard*, and *Wilberforce*, are peculiar to the county of York; *Carruthers* and *Burnside* to the northern counties; *Poynder* and *Thwaite* to Lancashire; *Tryce* to Worcestershire; and *Poyzer* to Derbyshire.

Cornwall from its peninsular form has, more than any other county, retained this peculiarity. Who does not remember the ancient proverb—

“By Tre, Pol, and Pen,  
He shall know the Cornish-men.”

Camden (or, more probably, his friend “R. Carew of Anthony, Esquire”) has amplified the proverb to

“By Tre, Ros, Pol, Lan, Cacr, and Pen,  
You may know the most Cornish-men.”

In no other county of England are there so many local surnames as in Cornwall; and as the names of

\* Gent. Mag., April 1830.

places are almost exclusively derived from *British* roots, the family nomenclature differs materially from that of the rest of England. I may remark that *Tre* signifies a town; *Ros*, a heath; *Pol*, a pool; *Lan*, a church; *Caer*, a castle; and *Pen*, a head.

In *Kent* and *Sussex*, *HURST*, signifying "wood," is a component syllable in many hundreds of names of places, from many of which surnames have been borrowed, as *Ticehurst*, *Crowhurst*, *Bathurst*, *Hawkhurst*, *Akehurst*, *Penkhurst*, *Wilmshurst*, *Ashhurst*, &c. *FIELD* and *DEN* are likewise very numerous in those counties, as *Chatfield*, *Burfield*, *Hartfield*, *Lindfield*, *Streatfeild*; *Cowden*, *Piddlesden*, *Horsmonden*, *Haffenden*, *Oxenden*.

In *Devonshire*, *COMBE* appears to be a favourite termination, as *Luscombe*, *Widicombe*.

The frequency of two family names in a northern county led to this proverbial saying :

"In Cheshire there are Lees as plenty as fleas,  
And as many Dabenports as dogs' tails!"

A Cheshire correspondent informs me that the *Leighs* are the persons intended; the *Lees*, a distinct family, having never been numerous in the county. He adds, that the more modern version of the proverb is—

"As many Leighs as fleas, Massies as asses, and  
Dabenports as dogs' tails."

As some surnames seem to flourish only in their native soil, and refuse to thrive when transplanted to another province, so, to pursue the vegetable analogy, other names, when they have taken root in a new field, undergo some modification of their character. In other words, their orthography and pronunciation are altered,



in compliance with the rules which govern the dialect of the district whither they are carried. For example, the family of the *Longs* settled in Scotland have become *Langs* and *Laings*, and the *Longmans*, *Langmans*. If Mr. *Fidler* migrated to Somersetshire, his descendants would become *Vidlers*; while Mr. *Croft's* settlement in *Yorkshire* would convert him and his into *Crafts*. I speak, of course, of early times, before orthography assumed a settled shape. So also the *Tompsetts* and *Tompkinse*s of the south would be *Tampsets* and *Tampkinse*s in Yorkshire and the north. The rather elegant name of *Beck*, a native of the north, would, on the other hand, find itself in the broad dialect of Sussex, *Back*; and this would at length pluralize into *Backs*, and finally almost lose its identity in *Bax*. By the same process, the name of the author of *Tristram Shandy* would, in the same county, first broaden into *Starne*, and finally pluralize into *Starnes*.

The changes which many names undergo in their vowel sounds may be chiefly attributed to the broadening or narrowing tendencies of our provincial dialects. Who can doubt the original identity of *Burt* and *Birt*, *Gilbert* and *Gilburd*, *Gillett* and *Gillott*, *Trescott* and *Truscott*, *Horsecraft* and *Horsecroft*, *Puttick* and *Puttock*, *Diplock* and *Duplock*, *Murrell* and *Morel*? Some seem to have run almost the entire *gamut* of the vowels, as *Hassell*, *Hessell*, *Hissell*, *Hussell*, besides other changes as *Essell*, *Hersell*, *Hursell*, &c.

*Kemble*, which might appear to be a narrowed Cockney pronunciation of *Campbell*, is, however, a local name adopted from a parish in Wiltshire.

The clumsy termination *-um*, so common in the United States, is a corruption of our genuine Anglo-Saxon '*Ham*,' and *Barnum*, *Putnam*, and *Chetum* are



merely modifications of Barnham, Puttenham, and Chetham.

“ We have often remarked,” says an intelligent writer, “ that every different district of country, or large town, possesses names which you scarcely ever see anywhere else, some of these names being evidently derived from circumstances connected with the special locality. For example, the surname *Boatbuilder* may be seen on signboards on the banks of the Thames, but we venture to say it is unheard of in any rural district. Names would thus seem to grow out of the very soil, and to possess an exact geographical distribution like the different species of plants and vegetables.”\* The present railway age, however, is doing much in the way of amalgamation, in this as well as in many other and higher respects.

\* “ A Word on Surnames,” in Chambers’ Edinburgh Journal.



## CHAPTER IV.

### OF FOREIGN SURNAMES NATURALIZED IN ENGLAND, WITH THEIR CORRUPTIONS.



ARIOUS causes might be assigned for the great variety that exists in the nomenclature of Englishmen. Probably the principal cause is to be found in the peculiar facilities which our island has for many ages presented to

the settlement of foreigners. War, royal matches with foreign princesses, the introduction of manufactures from the Continent, and the patronage which our country has always extended to every kind of foreign talent—have all tended to the introduction of new names. It would be a vain and hopeless task to attempt anything like a classification of these names by the various countries whence we have received them. I shall therefore confine myself to the mention of a few, my principal object in the present Chapter being to show that many very usual names, generally supposed to be English, are merely corruptions of foreign words, and therefore unintelligible even to the families who are designated by them.

Of French names I have already incidentally said much. The proximity of Normandy, and the fact of our country having been politically subjected to that duchy at a period when surnames were of recent intro-

duction, sufficiently account for the vast number of French names which have become naturalized in England. The names already mentioned, and those included in the Roll of Battel Abbey, given in the Appendix, must suffice for French surnames. I shall therefore only allude to names *corrupted* from the French, which are sufficiently numerous. I may quote, by way of example, Molineux, La-Ville, De-Ath, and De-Ville, which have been scandalously transformed to *Mullnicks* and *Mullenax*, *Larwill*, *Death*, and *Devil*! *St. Leger*, has become *Sellenger*! Mombray, *Mummery*; and Butvillaine, *Butwilliam*. The last-named family flourished in early times in Northamptonshire under the designation of *Boutevilein*, which was contracted first into *Butvelin*, and then to *Butlin*. Between a nosegay and a pail there exists no great analogy, but this has not prevented *Bouquet* from becoming *Buckett*! Scardeville has fared still worse; for while on one hand it has been anglicised to *Skarfield*, on the other it has been *demonized* (shall I say?) to *Scaredevil*!! The Americans are, if possible, worse than ourselves in respect of this torturing of names, for F. Lieber tells us that "in Salem, Massachusetts, there is now living a family of the [vile] name of *Blumpay*, a corruption of *Blancpied* (Whitefoot), their original name;" but more of the Americans presently.

The readiest corruption from the French is that which turns *ville* into *field*, as Blomfield for Blondenville, Summerfield for Somerville, Baskerville for Baskerville. "The late Lord Orford used to relate that a dispute once arose in his presence, in the way of raillery, between the late Earl Temple and the first Lord Lyttleton, on the comparative antiquity of their families. Lord Lyttleton concluded that the name of

Grenville was originally *green-field*; Earl Temple insisted that it was derived from *Grande-ville*. "Well then," said Lord Lyttleton, "if you will have it so, my family may boast of the higher antiquity, for *Little Towns* were certainly antecedent to *Great Cities*; but if you will be content with the more humble derivation, I will give up the point, for *Green Fields* were certainly more antient than either."\* It may be remarked that the place in Normandy which gave name to Lord Temple's family is now a *ville* anything but *grande*, if we may trust a certain proverb which affirms that it contains only a church and a mill:

" Granville, grand vilain,  
Une église et un moulin,  
On voit Granville tout à plein!" †

In some cases *VILLE* has been changed to *WELL*, as Rosseville to Roswell, Bosseville to Boswell, Freshville to Fretwell! Among other corruptions may be given Darcy from Adrecy, Mungey from Mountjoy, Knevett from Duvenet, Davers from Danvers, Troublefield from Tuberville, Botfield from De Botville, Manwaring and Mannering from Mesnilwarin, Dabridgecourt and Dabscot from Damprecourt, Barringer from Beranger, Tall-boys (!) from Taille-bois.

The greatest importation of French names and families since the Conquest, was at the revocation of the edict of Nantes: hence date the *Ducarels*, *Bernonvilles*, *Chamiers*, *Palairets*, *Guardots*, *Laprimaudayes*, *Tessiers*, *Barrats*, *Romaynes*, and many others.

Many of our family names are of German birth, a fact easily accounted for when we remember that our

\* Brady's Dissertation.

† Wright's Essays on the Middle Ages, vol. i, p. 134.



present royal family springs from Germany. Others, again, are from Holland, between which country and our own, relations of the most friendly character, religious and commercial, have for a long period subsisted. Hence the familiar names of *Bentinck*, *Dunk*, *Goldsmid*, *Boorman*, *Rickman*, *Shurman*, *Hickman*, and many other 'mans', *Vanneck*, *Vansittart*, *Vanderberg*, *Vandergucht*, *Vandersteen*, *Vandervelt*, and many other 'vans.' The ludicrous names of *Higginbottom* and *Bomgarson* are corruptions, it is said, of *Ickenbaum*, an oak-tree, and *Baumgarten*, a tree-garden or orchard;\* but I suspect that the latter would be more naturally derived from '*Bon-garçon*,' a French compound as natural as our own *Good-lad*; to which it might stand in the same relation as does Monsieur '*Bonhomme*' to Mr. *Goodman*.

Many Jewish names are German, as *Rothschild*, *Hart* (herz, heart). Those in -ER, with the name of a German town or district, denote the same extraction, as *Friedlander*, *Dantziger*, *Hamburgher*. Having no settled family nomenclature of their own, the German Jews often assume surnames from their places of abode with this suffix. *Rusbridger* and (perhaps) *Rusbridge*, seem to be derived from the town of Rousbrugge in Belgium.

I may observe, *en passant*, that the Germans, like ourselves and the French, borrow many of their surnames from localities. Their prevailing family names of this class have the following terminations:

BERG, mountain. *Stolberg*, *Altenberg*. The town in Belgium now called Mons is really Berg St. Winox.

STEIN, stone. *Walstein*, *Hermanstein*. It was

\* Gent. Mag., Oct. 1820.



said at Vienna, that the Emperor Ferdinand II had, among his courtiers, three very lofty mountains and three very precious stones, viz. Questenberg, Verdenberg, and Eggenberg; and Dietrichstein, Lichtenstein, and Vallenstein.\*

FELD, field. Mansfeld, Benfeld.

BACH, (beck,) river. Steinbach, Lauterbach.

DORFF, (thorp,) village. Puffendorf, Altendorff.

HAUSEN, house. Schaffhausen.

HOLTZ, (holt,) wood. Berholtz.

THAL, (dale,) valley. Kaldenthal.

STAT, town. Bernstat.

It will be seen from this list, that several of the topographical terms entering into the composition of German surnames are cognate with those which form parts of many of our own, and spring from the same Teutonic stock (e. g. 'feld' with field; 'bach' with beck): hence a difficulty sometimes arises as to whether a surname is indigenous to England, or is of German or Dutch original.

Other European nations have furnished us with a few names; thus from Italy we have *Boffey*, *Cæsar*, *Castilian*, *Fussell*, *Bassano*, and *Montefiore*; from Spain, *Ximines*, *Mendoza*; from Portugal, *Lousada*, *Lindo*; from Denmark, *Scrase*, *Isted* and *Denis*, &c.

The AN final denotes an Irish extraction, as *Egan*, *Scogan*, *Flanagan*, and *Doran*.

If foreign names have been liable to corruption, it must not be imagined that names originally English have escaped deterioration. Such corruptions were excusable in times when few besides learned clerks could write their own names, and when the spelling of words was governed by the sound, whether truly

\* Salverte.

pronounced or not ; but that they should be perpetrated now, in the nineteenth century, when the schoolmaster professes to be everywhere abroad, is a sad disgrace to that personage. I know a family of farmers who are descended from a younger branch of the antient gentry family of Alchorne of Alchorne, and who always spelt their name properly until about twenty years since, when a new schoolmaster settling in the village, informed them that their proper designation was *All-corn*, which name they are now contented to bear ! Another family who antiently bore the name of De Houghstepe, a local appellative, signifying ‘ of the high steep,’ have laid aside that fine old Teutonic designation, and adopted in its stead the thrice-barbarous cognomen of *Huckstepp* ! A third family, who in the days of their antient gentry wrote themselves “ in any bill, warrant, quittance, or obligation,” *Birchensty* of Birchensty, afterwards abbreviated their name to *Birsty*, and their descendants, now in plebeian condition, rejoice in the swelling appellation of *Burster*. A fourth family, called in the middle ages *Guttershole*, from the name of their landed estate, are now content to bear that of *Guts-all* ! A fifth, wrote themselves, in the fourteenth century, De Boxhulle, and were gentry : in the nineteenth they are plebeians, and rejoice, one branch in the pugnacious designation of *Box-all*, the other in the more peaceable one of *Box-sell*. These are all in Sussex.

What can be more barbarous than *Dealchamber* for De la Chambre ; *Brewhouse* for Braose ; *Cowbrain* for Colbran ; *Tednambury* for St. Edmunds Bury ;\* *All-work* for Aldwark ; *Wilbraham* for Wilburgham ; *Wilberforce* for Wilburghfoss ; *Sapsford* for Sabridge-

\* Chauncey’s Hertfordshire, p. 353.

worth; *Hoad* for Howard; or *Gurr* for Gower? Alas, for such “contracting, syncopating, curtelling, and mollifying” as this!

Corruptions every whit as vile as the foregoing, as far as *pronunciation* goes, are tolerated by several of our patrician families, though the original and correct orthography is retained: thus, Cholmondeley is called *Chulmley*; Majoribanks, *Marchbanks*; St. John, *Singen*\* (whence probably *Sinden*); and Fitz-John, *Fidgen*.

*Carew* is given in its true pronunciation by some families who bear it: others sound it like *Carey*. To account for this discrepancy, Mr. John Yorke, whose daughter married Mr. Pole Carew, used jocularly to say, that there were at one time two Messrs. Walter Carew in the House of Commons, and that to prevent the frequent embarrassments arising from this identity of names, it was agreed to call one Carew and the other Carey, and thus to put an end to the confusion between *What care-I* and *What care-you*!

Who would think of looking for the origin of *Lewknor* in Levechenora, the denomination of one of the hundreds of Lincolnshire?† Who but a patient antiquary could find *Duppa* in D’Uphaugh?‡ The Italian name Hugezun has been corrupted to *Hughson*! This reminds me of an anecdote in Lieber’s ‘Stranger in America,’ which forms so good an illustration of the manner in which names are often corrupted, that I give it as it stands:

“The plain English Christian name and surname of Benjamin Eaton, borne by a Spanish boy, was

\* Pope opens his Essay on Man with—

“Awake my St. John, leave all meaner things  
To low ambition and the pride of kings.”

† Pegge’s Curial. Miscel. p. 208.

‡ Ibid. p. 209.

derived from his single Spanish Christian name of Benito or Benedict; and this by a very natural process, though one which would have defied the acuteness of Tooke and the wit of Swift. When the boy was taken on board ship, the sailors, who are not apt to be fastidious in their attention to the niceties of language, hearing him called Benito (pronounced *Beneeto*), made the nearest approximation to the Spanish sound which the case required, and which would give an intelligible sailor's name, by saluting their new shipmate as '*Ben Eaton*,' which the boy probably supposed was the corresponding English name, and accordingly conformed to it himself when asked for his name. The next process in the etymological transformation was, that when he was sent to one of our schools, the master of course inquired his name, and being answered that it was Ben Eaton, and presuming that to be his true name, abbreviated as usual in the familiar style, directed him, as grammatical propriety required, to write it at full length, *Benjamin Eaton*!"

In some instances an antique spelling is retained by families of distinction, while plebeian branches have modified theirs according to the fluctuations of orthography which have taken place in more recent times. *Brydges*, *Chrippes*, *Streatfeild*, and *Whitfeld*, may be mentioned in proof. Henry Fielding, being in company with the Earl of Denbigh, with whose family his own was closely connected, his lordship asked why they spelt their names differently, the earl's family doing it with the *e* first (Feilding), and Mr. Henry with the *i* first (Fielding). "I cannot tell, my lord," answered the great novelist, "except it be that my branch of the family were the first that knew how to spell."



Sometimes the spelling of names is so changed that the various branches of one family lose sight of their consanguinity. I think there is little doubt that the *Gorings*, *Gorrings*, and *Gorringes*, of Sussex, proceed from a common ancestor, and that he borrowed his designation from the village of Goring. Similar instances might be adduced from many other districts in the kingdom.

From these corruptions and variations arises one of the greatest difficulties which the genealogist has to encounter. Mr. Markland mentions having seen a document of the sixteenth century, in which four brothers, named Rugely, spell their names in as many different ways. Dr. Chandler notices the name of Waynflete in *seventeen* modes of orthography, and Dugdale, in his MS. Collections respecting the family of Mainwaring, of Peover, co. Chester, has the extraordinary number of *one hundred and thirty-one* variations of that single name, all drawn from authorized documents. "It might be conjectured," adds Mr. Markland, "that these variations were intentional, could any probable motive be assigned for such a practice."\*

I imagine that our ancestors deemed this diversity a species of elegant license, for the purpose of avoiding the monotony of a more regular and consistent mode; a species of taste "somewhat akin to the fastidiousness in modern composition, which as studiously rejects the repetition of words and phrases."

The process of corruption is often strikingly exemplified in parish registers. In the course of a century or two a name occasionally almost loses its identity. In the register of Cheam, co. Surrey, the noble name of Dudley has thus become *Deadly*! The Rev. George

\* Archæologia, vol. xviii, p. 108.



Oliver mentions the following singular mutations which have come under his observation: *Hauforth* has been corrupted to *Alford*; *Keymish* to *Cammiss*; *Vaustell* to *Fussey*!

A village in western Sussex bears the name of Itchenor. In the same district resides a family surnamed *Titchenor*, which is probably a corruption of De Itchenor—D'Itchenor. In like manner the family of Tichbourne, in Hampshire, seem to have corrupted their name from D'Itchin-bourne, i. e. the river Itchin.

In the will of Philip Isaacson, made so lately as the seventeenth century, the testator signs Ph. *Izatson*, while his son, who witnesses the document, writes himself Stephen *Isaacson*. In the preceding century, a nun of Denny Abbey, co. Cambridge, writing to her father, addresses the letter to Thomas *Stuteville*, Esq., of Dalham, and signs it Margaret *Stutfield*.\*

There are many surnames which have the appearance of nicknames or sobriquets, but are really derived from names of places more or less corrupted, as *Wormewood*, *Ink-pen*, *Allchin*, *Tiptow*, *Moone*, *Maners*, *Maypowder*, *Cuckold*, *Go-dolphin*, *Hurl-stone*, *Small-back*, *Bellows*, *Filpot*, *Waddle*, &c.; from Ormond, Ingepen, Alchorne, Tiptoft, Mohun, Manors, Mappowder, Cokswold, Godolchan, Hudlestone, Smalbach, Phillipot, Wahul, &c. Also *Tash*, *Toke*, *Tabbey*, from At Ash, At Oke, At Abbey; and *Toly*, *Tabby*, *Tows*, from St. Olye, St. Ebbe, St. Osyth. The following are taken from places without change: *Spittle-house*, *Whitegift*, *Alshop*, *Antrobus*, *Hartshorn*, *Wood-head*, *All-wood*, *Gardening*, and *Killingback*!

\* Ex inf. Rev. S. Isaacson, M.A., a descendant both of the Izatson and the Stuteville mentioned in the text.

We are not to suppose that all families bearing English names are of English extraction. "Sometimes," says the author of the 'Stranger in America,' and the remark applies equally well to England, "sometimes they are positively *translated*; thus I know of a Mr. Bridgebuilder, whose ancestors came from Germany under the name of Bruckenbauer. I have met with many instances of this kind. There is a family now in Pennsylvania whose original name was Klein; at present they have branched out into three chief ramifications, called Klein, Small, and Little; and if they continue to have many 'little ones,' they may, for aught I know, branch out into Short, Less, and Lesser, down to the most Lilliputian names. . . . A German called *Feuerstein* (fire-stone—the German for flint) settled in the west when French population prevailed in that quarter. His name, therefore, was changed into *Pierre à Fusil*; but in the course of time the Anglo-American race became the prevalent one, and *Pierre à Fusil* was again changed into *Peter Gun*!"

I shall wind up this chapter with a curious anecdote,\* which gives an antient and well-known Grecian philosopher a regular English Christian and surname, in a manner precisely similar to that by which the poor Spanish sailor, Benito, became Benjamin Eaton.

In the Bodleian Library at Oxford there is a MS. by Leland, the topographer, written temp. Henry VIII, by whose permission he was enabled to visit the dissolved monasteries, to collect such manuscripts as he deemed worthy of conservation. It is entitled "Certayne Questions, and Answeres to the same, concernynge

\* Obligingly communicated by the Rev. S. Isaacson, M.A., from the *Christian Remembrancer*, vol. xx, p. 301 (edited by that gentleman).

the mystery of *Maçonrye*, writtene by the hande of Kynge Henrye the sixthe of the name, and faithfully copied by me Johan Leylande, Antiquarius, by the commande of his Highnesse."

"*Quest.* (4) How comede ytt yn Englonde?

"*Answ.* *Peter Gower*, a Grecian journeyedde ffor kunnyng yn Egypte and in Syria, and in everyche londe whereat the Venetians hadd plauntedde maçonry; wynnynge entrance yn all lodges of maçonnes, he lernede muche, and retournedde and woned yn Grecia Magna, wacksynge and becommynge a *mighty wyse-acre*, and gratelyche renowned, and here he framed a grate lodge at Groton, and maked many maçonnes, some whereof dyd journey yn Fraunce, and maked many maçonnes, whereoffe comme yn process of time the arte passid in Englonde."

"The meaning of all this is, that one Peter Gower, a Grecian, travelled in the east, where the Venetians had introduced the art of masonry, and obtaining entrance into the masonic lodges learned many of their mysteries; that on his return to the west he settled in Italy, at Groton, some of whose members introduced the art into France, from whence in process of time it passed into England. It is well that poor Henry the Sixth tells us that Peter Gower was a Grecian, for otherwise, the name being so thoroughly English, great might have been the bewilderment and battling of our antiquaries therein. How a Greek should come by it was puzzle enough in Leland's time, for concerning it 'he died and made no sign.' The royal cacography is so evident in giving *Venetians* for Phœnicians, and *Groton*, which is the name of a town in England, for Crotona, a place in Italy, that we may safely presume *Peter Gower* to be only an approximation to the real

name of the great founder of European masonry, who was doubtless PYTHAGORAS ! For the French, who, it appears, introduced masonry into England, spelt his name *Pytha-gore*, and pronounced it *Peta-gore*, which is as good English for *Peter Gower*, from a Frenchman, as could reasonably be desired."





## CHAPTER V.

### OF CHANGED SURNAMES.



ILLUSION has already been made to the changes which frequently took place in our family nomenclature from the substitution of one name for another; but I consider those changes sufficiently interesting to form the subject of a short separate chapter.

The practice of altering one's name upon the occurrence of any remarkable event in his personal history, seems to have been known in times of very remote antiquity. The substitution of Abraham for Abram, Sarah for Sarai, Israel for Jacob, Paul for Saul, &c., are matters of sacred history; but the custom prevailed in other nations as well as among the Jews. Codomarus, on coming to the kingdom of Persia, took the princely name of Darius. Romulus, after his deification, was called Quirinus. Some persons adopted into noble families substituted the name of the latter for their own original appellations. The practice of changing names in compliance with testamentary injunctions is also of antient date; thus Augustus, who was at first called Thureon, took the name of Octavius. Others received a new name when they were made free of certain cities, as Demetrius Mega, who on becoming a free citizen of Rome was designated Publius Cornelius. Slaves, who prior to manumission had only one name,



received, on becoming free, the addition of their master's. Among the primitive Christians it was customary to change the names of persons who left Paganism to embrace the true faith. The popes, as all know, change their names on coming to "the holy apostolical see" of Rome; a practice said to have originated with Sergius the Second, because his previous name was *Hogsmouth*! One pope, Marcellus, refused to change his name, saying, "Marcellus I was, and Marcellus I will be; I will neither change name nor manners."\* To him the conclave might have quoted Virgil, in a soothing tone like that employed towards a wilful spoiled child:

"Tu Marcellus *eris*!" †

In France it was formerly customary for eldest sons to take their fathers' surnames, while the younger branches assumed the names of the estates allotted them. This plan also prevailed in England some time after the Norman Conquest. Camden gives several instances. "If Hugh of Saddington gaue to his second sonne his mannour of Fridon, to his third sonne his mannour of Pantley, to his fourth his wood of Albdy, the sonnes called themselves De Frydon, De Pantley, De Albdy, and their posterity remooued *De*. So Hugh Montforte's second sonne, called Richard, being Lord of Hatton in Warwickeshire, tooke the name of Hatton. So the yongest sonne of Simon de Montfort, Earle of Leicester, staying in England when his father was slaine and brethren fled, tooke the name of *Welsborne*, as some of that name haue reported. So the name of Euer came from the mannour of Euer, neare Uxbridge, to yonger sonnes of L. John Fitz-Robert de Clauering, from whom the Lord Euers, and Sir Peter Euers of Axholme are descended. So Sir

\* Camden.

† *Æn.* vi, v. 883.

John Cradocke, knight, great grandfather of Sir Henry Newton of Somersetshire, tooke first the name of Newton, which was the name of his habitation ; as the issue of Huddard in Cheshire tooke the name of Dutton their chief mansion.”\*

Sir Grey Skipwith is the lineal descendant of Patrick, the youngest son of Robert *Stuteville*, whose father came over with the Conqueror, and who took the name of *Skipwith* from his possessions at a place so called. Another branch of the same family took the name of *Latton* on the same account, and still flourishes in Berkshire. In like manner the family of Major-Gen. *Ireton* who married a daughter of Oliver Cromwell, branched out at an early period from that of Shirley (Lord Ferrers) and adopted their surname in the 12th century from the manor of Little Ireton co. Derby.† The families of *Hever* and *Toneford* are of the same blood as that of Cobham, in Kent ; while from the celebrated stock of *Dering* in that county, the following surnames have ramified : *De-la-Hell*, *Wrotham*, *Cuckeston*, *Perinton*, *Pirefield*, *Cheriton*, and *Ash*. These were all adopted from the names of places where younger sons of the family had effected a settlement.‡ In these and hundreds of other instances “a local habitation and a name” were simultaneously acquired.

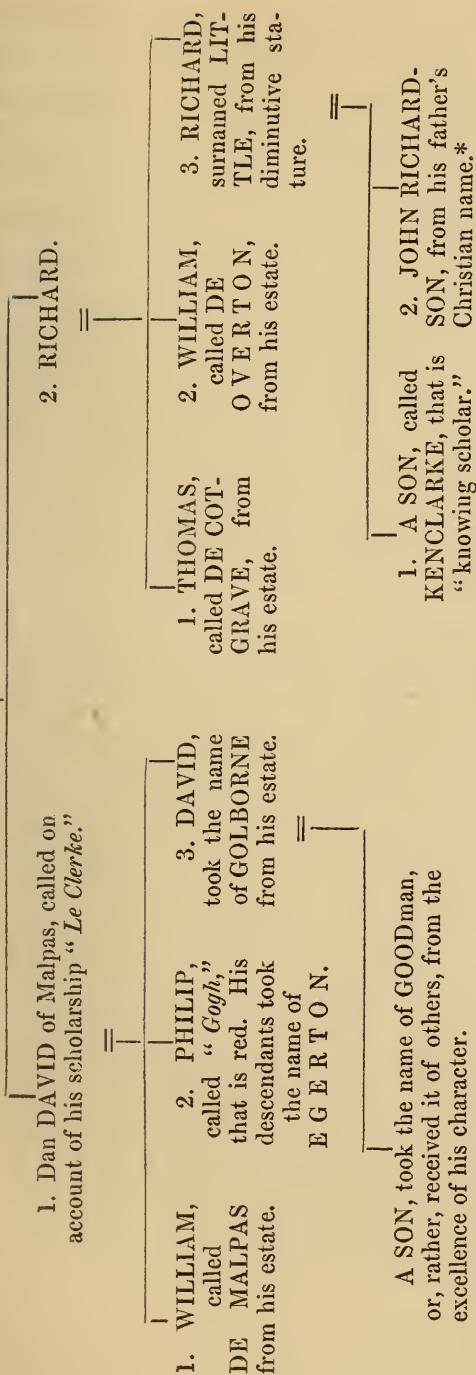
The annexed little pedigree of a family in Cheshire soon after the Conquest affords a most striking illustration of the changes which occurred in family names before hereditary surnames were fully established, and of the consequent difficulty which must be experienced in tracing pedigrees in those early times. It was taken by Camden “out of an antient Roule belonging to Sir William Brereton of Brereton, knight.”

\* Camden.

† Shirley's *Stemmata Shirleiana*.

‡ Vide *Curiosities of Heraldry*, p. 305.

"WILLIAM BELWARD, Lord of Malpas in Cheshire, had two Sons,



\* An eminent antiquary, well acquainted with the genealogy of Cheshire families, informs me that "Other of the baronial races of the palatinate ramified as much as the barons of Malpas did, particularly the Vernons, the Stokeports, and the Venables." In the barony of Kendal (Westmoreland and Lancashire) the male descendants of Ivo DE TAILBOIS will be found in the same manner to divide into (1) *De Lancaster*, (2) *Curwen*, and (3) *Irby*; and, according to strong probabilities, into (4) *Kelleth*, (5) *Coupland*, (6) *Fitz-Orme*, and (7) *Fitz-Gilbert*. To these West (Hist. Furness) adds (8) *Bardsea*, (9) *Broughton*, (10) *Lowick*, (11) *Kirby*, (12) *Preston*; and Wotton (Baronetage) subjoins (13) *Lea of Lea*, and (14) *Houghton*."

From this table it will be seen that in four descents, and among about fifteen persons descended from one and the same individual, there were no less than *thirteen* surnames. Well may our antiquary say, "Verily the gentlemen of those so different names in Cheshire would not easily be induced to believe they were descended from one house, if it were not warranted by so ancient a proove." It is also worthy of remark that we have here in one family, within the compass probably of a single century, *five* descriptions of surnames, namely, FOREIGN, as Belward; LOCAL, as De Malpas, De Cotgrave; from PERSONAL QUALITIES, as Gogh or red, and Little; from MENTAL QUALITIES AND ATTAINMENTS, as Goodman and Ken-Clarke; and from the PATERNAL NAME, as Richardson.

Another of Camden's instances:—A young gentleman of the family of Preux, an attendant on Lord Hungerford, Lord Treasurer of England, being of remarkably tall stature, acquired among his companions the sobriquet of *Long Henry*. Marrying afterwards a lady of quality he transposed his name to Henry Long, and became the founder of an eminent family, who bore *Long* as a surname. The original name of the most renowned of the compeers of Robin Hood was *John LITTLE*, (a sobriquet acquired from his being a foot *taller* than ordinary men), but on joining Robin's party he was re-baptized, and his names were reversed. Will Stukeley loquitur:

"This infant was called John Little, (quoeth he,)
 Which name shall be changed anon;
 The words we'll transpose; so wherever he goes,
 His name shall be called Little John."

*Ritson.*

There are many cases on record of the sons of great



heiresses having left their paternal surnames for those of their mothers: this was done by the Stanleys, Nevilles, Percies, Carews, Cavendishes, Braybrookes, &c. &c. Johanna Stuteville (great-great-grandmother of Joan, "the fair maid of Kent," mother of Richard II,) in consequence of her immense possessions retained her maiden-name in widowhood.\* Others took the names of attainted lords whose property fell into their possession: this was the case with the Mowbrays.

Some changed their names by the Royal command, as we have seen in the case of the Cromwells. "I love you," said Edward the Fourth to some of the family of *Picard*, "but not your name;" whereupon they adopted others: one took that of *Ruddle*, from the place of his birth†—no improvement, certainly, so far as euphony goes.

During the civil wars in the time of Henry the Fourth, several of our antient families changed their names for the purpose of concealment, as the Blunts of Buckinghamshire, who assumed that of Croke; and the Carringtons of Warwickshire, who took that of Smith.‡

Ralph Brooke, York Herald in 1594, says, "If a man had three sonnns, the one dwelling at the *Townsend*, the other at y<sup>e</sup> *Woode*, and the thyrd at the *Parke*, they all took theyr surnames of their dwellings, and left their aunciente surnames; which errour hath overthrowen and brought into oblyvion manye aunciente houses in this realme of England."§

There is much justice in this remark, however inconsistently it may come from Brooke, who had himself changed his name from *Brokesmouth*.

With respect to ecclesiastics, or as they are styled

\* Dugdale.

† Camden.

‡ Fuller's Worthies, p. 51.

§ From a MS. quoted in Blore's Monumental Remains.



by Holinshed, “spiritual men,” it was, according to that historian, an almost invariable “fashion to take awaie the father’s surname (were it never so worshipful or antient), and give him for it the name of the towne he was born in;” and another writer informs us that “It was the use in old time upon entrie into religion to alter the name and take it from the place, for that by their taking religious habits they were dead persons in law, as to the world, and the next heire should inherite and enter upon their lande as if they were ded indeed; and professing themselves of an order, they were revived to a spiritual life, and so assumed a new name.”\*

Of this practice amongst the clergy, especially upon their entering into holy orders, innumerable instances occur, but it may be sufficient to quote the two celebrated prelates, William of Wykeham, whose father’s name was Longe, and William Waynflete, who, as an unbeneficed acolyte, is found in the episcopal register of Lincoln (as Dr. Chandler conjectures) under the name of Barbor, and which he dropped on becoming a sub-deacon. Waynflete’s father was called indifferently Richard Patten or Barbour.†

In our own times family names are often changed, in accordance with testamentary injunctions accompanying bequests of property. Sometimes a *less weighty*, though not less powerful, motive has produced the change, namely, a desire to be ‘somebody,’ and to avoid the imputation of low birth and connexions. Of *Smythe*, *Cutlar*, *Tayleure*, *Yonge*, *Broun*, *Fysshe*, *Foord*, *Willyams*, *Martyn*, &c., we may observe, “Stant nominis umbra.” These, however, are trifling departures

\* Harl. MS., 4630.

† Archæologia, vol. xviii, p. 109.

from the common orthography, simple “ devices to turn the vulgar to the genteel by the change of a letter ;” \* and modesty itself when compared with such changes as Gomery to *Mont-gomery*, Skidmore to *Scudamore*, Morgan to *De Morgan*, Wigram to *Fitz-wigram*, Wyatt to *Wyatt-ville*—“ by which good common English is transmogrified into bad French, to be mis-pronounced by the ignorant and laughed at by the wise, the deserved and inevitable fate of pretension, ridiculous in everything, and most of all in strange names.” *Hayward*, as if ashamed of his plebeian appellation of “cattle-keeper,” has metamorphosed himself into *Howard*, whereby, no doubt, he thinks to pass as a connexion of the greatest of ducal houses. Upjohn has become *Ap John*, *Bulcock*, *Belcombe*, *Pedlar*, *Shield* !

The name of *Huddleston* is undoubtedly local, yet some of its bearers are foolish enough to think that they are descended from King Athelstan ! *Huddleston* is a small parish in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Swift, in the ‘*Examiner*’ (No. 40, 1711), says, “ I know a citizen who adds or alters a letter in his name with every plum he acquires ; he now wants only the change of a vowel to be allied to a sovereign prince in Italy, and that, perhaps, he may contrive to be done by a mistake of the graver upon his tombstone.” This was Sir Henry Furnese, whose surname underwent the following transformations : *Furnace*, *Furnice*, *Furnise*, *Furnesse*, *Furness*, *Furnese*. † Whether he actually became a FARNESE, posthumously, I never heard.

*Almack* is supposed by the family bearing it to be an inversion of the Scottish Mac-All.

Many JEWISH FAMILIES have assimilated their sur-

\* Miss Mitford’s ‘*Our Village*.’

† Boys’ *Sandwich*, p. 485.

names to others of English origin, as Abraham to *Braham*, Moses to *Moss* and *Moseley*, Solomon to *Salmon* and *Sloman*, Jonas to *Jones*, Levi to *Lewis*, Barugh to *Barrow*, Elias to *Ellis*, Eliason to *Elliotson*, Emanuel to *Manuel*. How several of the *Barnetts*, and a few of the *Barnards* and *Brandons*, came by their Christian surnames it is difficult to conjecture. *Lyon* and *Myers* ("meier," farmer) are German-Jewish names naturalized among us.

THE GIPSEYS, who, in several of the main features of their character and history, exhibit a striking resemblance to the Jews, came into England in the fifteenth century. What kind of nomenclature they possessed previously to their advent it is now impossible to ascertain. It is probable that they had no surnames, since at the present day they uniformly borrow those of *English* families. Their principal clans are those of *Baker*, *Barnett*, *Bosville*, *Buckland*, *Broadway*, *Buckley*, *Blewitt*, *Carew*, *Carter*, *Cooper*, *Corrie*, *Draper*, *Eyres*, *Fletcher*, *Glover*, *Jones*, *Lee*, *Light*, *Loversedge*, *Lovell*, *Mansfield*, *Martin*, *Plunkett*, *Smith*, *Smalls*, *Scamp* (!), *Stanley*, *Taylor*, *Williams*.\*

There is one other circumstance under which, according to Camden, names were changed, namely when servants took the Surnames of their masters. In the absence of all evidence, I very much question if this was ever at all usual. If it was, the knowledge of the fact inflicts a "heavy blow and great discouragement" on our plebeian Seymours, and Lovells, and Pierpoints, and Sinclairs, and Spencers,† and Tyrrells,

\* Crabb's Gipsies' Advocate, London, 1832.

† In any case the *Seymours* and the *Spencers* may entertain a doubt of the nobility of their origin, since the former name is far more likely to proceed, in the majority of cases, from the old English *seamer*, a tailor,



who fancy themselves descended from noble blood; for they may, after all, be nothing but genuine Smiths, and Browns, and Joneses, and Robinsons, with changed names. Alack-a-day for such pretensions!

My reason for rejecting the hypothesis, however, is founded on the pride which characterises great and antient houses. This would have prohibited the adoption of the cherished family appellation—which had been for ages regarded as a distinctive mark of the high-born and noble—by humble dependents and neighbours. An excellent illustration of this feeling occurs in a recent publication on Esthonia, where it is mentioned that on the enfranchisement of the serfs on a certain estate, which took place a few years since, the nobleman, their former proprietor, advised them to assume surnames; but would not, on any account, allow them to bear that of his own family, notwithstanding their earnest and oft-reiterated entreaties. The system of clanship in Scotland may be urged in defence of Camden's assertion, as the members of the clans generally assumed the surnames of their lords and protectors; but the circumstances under which clans were originally formed had no parallel in feudal England. We have not space to enter minutely into the question how the most illustrious and aristocratic of names have come to be diffused among all classes of the community; but it may suffice generally to remark, that the fact may be accounted for by the

than from the St. Maures of Norman times; and albeit the first of the noble Spensers was "dispensator" to royalty, I strongly suspect that many of our second and third class families might trace with much stronger probabilities to certain ignoble dispensators whose functions were limited to certain "old buttery hatches" of certain "old English gentlemen" of later times. "SPENS, a buttraye, *despencier*." (Palsgrave.)

mutations to which families as well as individuals are subject in the common course of events. Families seldom remain at a stationary point in worldly prosperity for many successive generations; and instances of the rapid advancement of some families to fortune, and of the equally speedy decay of others, must be familiar to all. Hence it is that the near kindred of the most exalted individuals are often found in stations exceedingly humble. The story of Lord Audley and shoemaker Touchet is well known: and the claim of a trunk-maker to the earldom of Northumberland, and the honours of the illustrious house of Percy, is a matter of history. There is now living in a southern county a *rat-catcher* whose near consanguinity to a noble earl representing one of the most antient houses in England would not be questioned, on investigation, by the most fastidious member of the Heralds' College. With such instances before us, it ceases to be a matter of surprise that the proudest names of English history have, in the lapse of ages, descended to the very "basement story" of society.

Suetonius mentions "that it was thought a capital crime in Pomposianus for calling his base bond-slaves by the names of grand captaines."\*

Finally, women, at *marriage*, change their surnames. How many wish in this manner to change them: how many regret they have ever done so!†

\* Camden.

† In Spain, the wife does not change her name at marriage. The son uses the paternal or maternal name, as he thinks proper. The choice generally falls upon that of the best family, in accordance with the proverb:

"El hijo de ruyn Padre  
Toma el appellido de la Madre."





## CHAPTER VI.

### OF SCOTTISH FAMILY NAMES.



INCIDENTALLY, the family nomenclature of Scotland has frequently been mentioned in these pages, and many Scottish names have been accounted for. Substantially, the surnames of that kingdom are English, with some few dialectic peculiarities, the only exceptions being those which come from the Gaelic language which formerly pervaded, and is even now extant in, the northern and western districts of the country. Possessing no knowledge of that antient tongue, I am unable to illustrate this branch of British nomenclature ; and as the Lowland names present no features of remarkable difference from those of England, I have no lucubrations on the subject to present to the reader.

A humorous arrangement of the surnames of the families resident in Edinburgh, authenticated with the addresses and occupations of the persons introduced, was published in that city in the form of a brochure, in 1825. These names are here reproduced as a fair sample of Scottish nomenclature.

Criticism is scarcely applicable to such a collection, intended as it is to amuse and not to teach ; otherwise it might be necessary to remark that many of the juxta-positions are false ones, and many of the implied etymologies, erroneous. I have added a few foot-notes by way of illustration.

## SURNAME IN EDINBURGH, 1825.

WE shall begin with the *Bald Head* father *Adam*; from whom we have *Still* got *Adamsons*, *Mansons*, *Bairnsfathers*, that have *Youngsons*, *Boys*, and *Childs*; *Nourses*, with *Fosters*, that are *Fairbairns*, with *White-heads* and *Roughheads*; but we have *Combs* to comb their *Pows*.

For *Playfairs*, they have *Dalls* and *Bells*; although *Young*, we have *Younger*, who have grown up to *Man*, and, with *Manners*, to be *Wise*, with *Virtue* and *Love*; but *Meek*, and *Humble*, without *Pride*, with *Hearts*, *Keen*, *Smart*, *Blyth*, *Merry*, *Gay*, always with *Smiles*; but when *Hastie*, and in high *Dudgeon*, they *Craick*,<sup>1</sup> and are *Huffy*; but when we *Cox* them, then they begin to speak *Lofty*, and *Crouch*, and *Ogle*, and *Pratt*.

And when we give *Partys*, they are seldom *Moody*; and, although *Sorlie* troubled with the *Boak*<sup>2</sup> and *Brash*,<sup>3</sup> they are *Goodall*, and have *Fortunes* to be given *Heartly* to *Auld Friends*, and *Cousins*; and *Cairds* to send on a *Sudden*, and *Instant*.

With *Boons* to our *Darling Sparks*, and *Bonnymen*, *Dons*, *Lairds*, and *Gentlemen*, and *Tennents*, *Batchelors*, and *Younghusbands*.

For they have *Ducats* and *Groats*, *Pennys* and *Mony-pennys*;

With *Bowers*, *Hermitages*, and *Woodhouses*, that have *Stories*, and *Thatchers* to roof them; but although *Airie*, they are *Reekie* and *Suttie*; and there are *Boogles*<sup>4</sup> that *Hunt*<sup>5</sup> them.

<sup>1</sup> *Craick*, to storm.    <sup>2</sup> *Boak*, belching.    <sup>3</sup> *Brash*, a rash or eruption.

<sup>4</sup> *Bogles*, goblins.    <sup>5</sup> *Hunt*, haunt.

We have *Sky*, and a *Moon*: two points of the compass, *North* and *West*, but only one *Pole*: two months of the *Year*, *March* and *May*; yet, after all, we have *Summer* and *Winter*, with *Snell*<sup>1</sup> *Storms of Hailstones*, *Snow*, and *Watt*,<sup>2</sup> *Rainy Days*.

With *Haliday*, *Valentine*, and *Yule*.

Also *Airth*, *Clay*, and *Sands*, which produce *Goold* and *Silver Orr*; *Ivory*, *Steel*, *Imrie*, *Salt*, *Bristow Stons*,<sup>3</sup> *Slate*, *Flint*, *Chrystal*, *Heaslewood*, *Blackwood*, and *Hathorn*; *Oats*, *Galls*, *Murphys*, *Cotton*, *Downs*, *Moss*, *Hopes*,<sup>4</sup> *Snodgrass*,<sup>5</sup> *Hay*, and *Straw*; with a *Fair* to sell them at.

Of *Waters*, we have the *Shannon*, *Boyne*, *Don*, and *Leven*; and the *Corrie Linn*; *Brooks*, *Burns*, *Blackburns*, *Burnsides*, *Linns*, *Fountains*, *Pools*, *Falls*, *Ponds*, *Pitcaithly Wells*, and *Coldwells*.

Of *Isles*, we have *Sicily*, *Bute*, *Cramond*, and *Inch Keith*.

*Gardeners* and *Gardens*, with *Leefs*, *Buds*, *Roses*, *Primroses*, *Myrtles*, *Lillys*, *Gowans*,<sup>6</sup> and *Spinks*;<sup>7</sup> with *Pecks of Alder-Berrys*, *Groserts*,<sup>8</sup> *Pears*, *Lemons*, *Plumbs*, with a *Grafter* to graft them.

Of *Animals*, we have *Lions*, *Griffins*, *Bullocks*, and *Stotts*;<sup>9</sup> *Colts*, and *Palfreys*, with *Long Mains*, that make good *Steeds*; for they are *Noble Walkers*, and *Trotters*, and can *Race*; with *Steedmen* to keep them that are good *Ryders*.

We have *Collies*<sup>10</sup> that are *Barkers*; *Foxes* that are *Wylie*; *Lambs* that are *Wooley*; *Hogs*, *Kids*, *Tods*,<sup>11</sup> *Hares*, *Kittins*, *Rats*, *Moles*, *Blackadders*, *Boogs*, *Leeches*,

<sup>1</sup> *Snell*, smart, keen.      <sup>2</sup> *Watt*, wet.      <sup>3</sup> *Bristow-stons*, Bristol stones.

<sup>4</sup> *Hopes*, hops.      <sup>5</sup> *Snodgrass*, trimmed or smooth grass.

<sup>6</sup> *Gowans*, daisies.      <sup>7</sup> *Spinks*, primroses.      <sup>8</sup> *Groserts*, gooseberries.

<sup>9</sup> *Stott*, a young ox.      <sup>10</sup> *Collies*, sheep-dogs.      <sup>11</sup> *Tods*, foxes.

and *Grubs*; with *Hyndman*, and *Hunters*, with *Traps* to catch them.

Of *Birds* and *Fowles*, we have the *Eagle*, *Peacock*, *Nightingale*, *Swan*, *Rook*, *Crow*, *Martin*, *Cay*,<sup>1</sup> *Ged*; also *Batts*, *Robins*, *Doves*, and *Croppers*, with *Fair-fowles* of different kinds, and *Falconers* and *Fowlers* to catch them.

*O-man*! we have *Salmon*, *Turbet*, *Ling*, *Flounders*, *Whittings*, *Haddows*, *Mennous*, and *Garvie-Herons*,<sup>2</sup> all with *Phins* and *Scales*; and *Crabs*, *Cheap*, with *Fishers*, and *Hooks* of the *Kirby* bend, to catch them.

Then we have *Kitchens*, with *Ovens*, and *Jacks*; as also *Sticks*, *Peats*, and *Coals*, *Potts*, *Kettles*, and *Branders*;<sup>3</sup> *Butter*, and *Cream*, with *Butlers*, that are *Cooks*, and *Dishers*.

Then they have only to *Fry*, and *Macreadie*, and go to the *Hall*, with their *Custards* for *Dinning*; and for *Beveridge*, we have *Gills* of *Shirry*, with *Glasses* of *Burton Goodale*, and *Calvert's Porter* for *Goodsires*, and *Goodfellows*.

We have *Kings*, with *Massy*, *Goulding Crowns*!! *Grando*! both *Princes* and *Nobles*, *Earls* and *Marquises*, *Knights*, *Barrons*, *Shirreffs*, *Baillies*, and *Mayors*, with a *Dean* of *Guild*, *Constables*, *Burgesses*, and *Commoners*; *Marshalls*, *Haralds*, *Ushers*, and *Pages*; *Colleges*, *Courts* of *Law*, *Skill*, and *Justice*; *Officers*, with *Duns*, *Dunnings*, and *Warrands*, with one to *Stampa*!

But we have *Banks*, *Stocks*, *Charters*, *Wills*, and *Grants*; *Treasurers*, that have *Chambers*, and *Clerks*, that are *Penmen*, with *Pens* to write with in *Broad-books*.

Also *Parishes*, and *Kirklands*, that are *Biglands*,

<sup>1</sup> *Cay*, a jackdaw.

<sup>2</sup> *Garvie-herons*, sprats.

<sup>3</sup> *Branders*, gridirons.



with *Kirkwoods*, that are *Braidwoods* ; *Abbays*, *Temples*, and *Kirks*, with *Spiers*, and *Pews* ; with *Bishop Sharp*, *Friers*, *Chaplains*, *Profits*, with *Lang Bairds*, that are *Wisemen* and *Elders* ; yet, besides, we have *Bad*, *Wild*, *Rough*, *Bookless*, *Savages*, and *Pagans*, that cannot *Read* ; with *Ironsides*, that feel no *Pain*, that have *Armstrong*, *Broadfoots*, and *Cruickshanks* ; but they are *Fell*, *Cunning*, *Meikle*,<sup>1</sup> *Stout*, *Strong*, *Swift*, *Jollie*, *Tough*, *Little*, *Slight*, *Short*, *Thin*, and *Mein* ; with *Greatheads*, *Lightbodys*, and *Small*, *Bendy Shanks*, *Little-johns*, and *Meiklejohns*, *Gentle* and *Semple*, *Whigams*, and *Torrays* !

We have *Shepherds* with *Crooks*, *Herds*, *Herdsmen*, and *Faulds*, *Ewebanks*, *Greenhills*, *Pentland Hills*, *Green Shields*, *Craigs*, *Carses*, *Muir*s, and *Longmoors*, *Glens*, *Groves*, *Woods*, *Heatherhills*, *Newlands*, *Forrests*, and *Forresters* to keep them.

We have *Farms*, *Farmers*, and *Fields*, *Greenfields*, *Butterfields*, *Broomfields*, with some *Sandylands* ; also *Parks*, *Riggs*,<sup>2</sup> *Plows*, *Ploughmen*, *Coulters*, *Harries*, *Harrimen*, *Harrowers*, *Shearers*, *Gatherers*, and *Stalkers*, *Nutter*, with *Millers*, and *Mills*.

For *Clothes*, we have *Breeks*, *Coats*, *Hoods*, *Boots*, and *Patons*.

Of *Colours*, there are *Scarlet*, *Blue*,<sup>3</sup> *Brown*, *Howden-Gray*, *Reid*, *Black*, and *White*, with *Webbs* of *Linen*, to make *More*, and *Wardrobes* to keep them.

Of *Old Worthies*, we have *Moses*, *Joseph*, *Samuel*, *Sampson*, *Daniel*, *Solomon*, *Jacob* and *Sarah*, *Ezekiel*,

<sup>1</sup> *Meikle*, big.

<sup>2</sup> *Riggs*, *Ridges*.

<sup>3</sup> *Blue*. This is not the only instance I have met with of this colour as a surname. At Little Brickhill, co. Northampton, is this inscription : " Here lieth the body of *True Blue*, who departed this life Jan. ye 17, 1724, aged 57."

*Amos, Paul, Matthew, Mark, Luke, James, Peter, Alexander, Hector, Macbeath, Bruce, Wallace, Rymer.*

Of Authors, Poets, &c. we have *Buchanan, Knox, Hume, Guthrie, Buchan, Samuel Johnson, Blair, Burns, Ferguson, Smollet*, with his *Peirie Green Pickle*, *Fielding*, and *Tom Jones, Harvie, Dryden, Robertson, Milton, Arnot, Richardson, Addison, Drummond, Newton, Thomson, Franklin*; *Home* with his *Douglas* and *Norvell*; *Allan Ramsay*, with *Peattie* and *Roger*; *Scott*, with his *Baillie Nicol Jarvies, Rob Roy, Merrylees, Davie Deans, Mushetts, Cairns, Quinten-Durward*, &c.

Painters; *Hogarth, Skirving, Nasmyth*, and *Raeburn*.

Musicians; *Neil Gow*, with his *Band of Songsters* and *Singers, Pipers*, and *Harpers*, that make a *Din*; their *Sangs* are '*Lewes Gordon*,' '*Duncan Davidson*,' '*Auld Rob Morris*,' '*Tom Glen*,' '*Jollie Dick*,' '*Logan Water*,' '*Blyth and Merry*,' '*the Miller of Dron*,' '*Robin Adair*,' the '*Lee Riggs*,' '*Galli Waters*,' '*Nancy Dawson*,' '*Maggie Lauder*,' '*O'er Bogie*,' '*Georges King*,' also the '*Waits at night*.'

Founders of hospitals; *Heriot, Watson, Gillespie*.

Of *Workmen*, we have *Masters* and *Prentices*, with *Edge-Tooles, Grindstones*, and *Planes*.

Of *Trades, Masons*, that are *Cowans*; <sup>1</sup> *Wrights, Websters, Tailors, Smiths, Ferriers, Saddlers, Cordiners, Drovers, Turners, Coopers, Glovers, Barbers, Brewsters, Baxters, Butchers, Slaters, Souters*, <sup>2</sup> *Plumbers, Skinners, Sawers, Potters, Salters, Colliers, Horners*, with *Horn* to work with.

*Merchants, Hosiers, Milners*; *Chapmen*, with *Wares, Borrowmen* and *Creelmen*; <sup>3</sup> but they are sometimes *Slack*,

<sup>1</sup> *Cowans*, smiths.

<sup>2</sup> *Souters*, shoemakers.

<sup>3</sup> *Borrowmen* and *Creelmen*, carriers of barrows and baskets, called *creels*.

and to keep them all right, we have *Formen* and *Grieves*,<sup>1</sup> with *Rules* and *Squairs*, *Foot* and *Inches*; but the *Drons* that *Budge*, or turn their *Back*, or let a *Spittal*, or tell *Riddles*, or *Hadaway*, and *Gamble*, or *Wager*, and do not play *Fairly* (when *Proven*), we *Trail*<sup>2</sup> to the *Blackhall*, and make *Mount* the *Blackstocks*, and *Burn* or *Brand* them, and have *Wands* and *Tawse*<sup>3</sup> to whip them. Then they may *Begg*, but they have a *Brougham* to plead for them.

Of Kingdoms, Towns, &c. we have *France*, *Sardinia*, *Ireland*, *Fife*, *Pavis*, *Glasgow*, *Stirling*, *Lithgow*, *Kirkaldy*, *Sutherland*, *Angus*, *Kinghorn*, *Clydesdale*, *Leven*, *Linton*, *Annan*, *Durham*, *Lauder* *Dalmahey*, *Corstorphin*, *Alloway*, *Abernethy*, *Galloway*, *Middleton*, *Dingwall*, *Bathgate*, *Biggar*, *Scoon*, *Calder*, *Berwick*, *Selkirk*, *Carlyle*, *Monteith*, *Swinton*, *Boston*, *Callander*, *Broughton*, *Coupar*, *Coldstream*, *Elgin*, *Gifford*, *Dunbar*, *Moffat*, *Balbirnie*, *Newbigging*, *Darby*, *Paisley*, *Peebles*, *Beath*, *Melrose*, *Stobo*, *Straiton*, *Leslie*, *Anstruther*, *Traquair*, *Coventry*, *Cornwall*, *Nairn*, *Lancaster*, *Roxburgh*, *Kent*, *Preston*, *Lugton*, *Inderwick*, *Wakefield*, *Richmond*, *Hamilton*, *Ormiston*, *Boswell*, *Hopeton*, *Currie*.

And for means of conveyance, we have *Ferries*, and *Sandy-Fords*, like *Glassfords*, that we can *Wade*; and for *Holloways*, we have *Bridges*, and *Broad Streets*. Their names are *George*, *Frederick*, *Nicolson*, *Drummond*, *Richmond*, *Arthur*, *Carnegie*, *Gilmour*,<sup>4</sup> *Blair*, *Dundas*, and *Maitland*; with both *Lanes*, and *Corners*, all with *Good Cassie*,<sup>5</sup> and a *Cross* to meet at, and *Crosswell* to drink at.\*

<sup>1</sup> *Grieve*, the superintendent of a coal-pit, corruption of *grave*.

<sup>2</sup> *Trail*, drag.

<sup>3</sup> *Tawse*, straps for castigation.

<sup>4</sup> *Gilmour*, a chief's attendant, or henchman.

<sup>5</sup> *Cassie*?

\* See *Crossweller*, among Local Surnames, Chapter V, Vol. I.

For means of defence against the *French*, *Romanes*, *Normands* or *Welsh*, or to give a *Rolland* for an *Oliver*, or another *Fairfax*, *Charles Stewart*, or *Paul Jones*, we have a *Wall* with *Dykes*, *Doons*,<sup>1</sup> *Yetts*,<sup>2</sup> and *Barrs*, with a *Portman* to *Lock* them: also *Mars* the god of war, with his *Trenches* and *Trains*, *Forts*, *Wards*, and *Wardens*; and when we *Levy* our *Troops* of *Hardy*, *Weatherly*, *Lothian*, *Yeaman*, *Trumen*, with their *Banners* and *Bannermen*—then ‘the *Campbells* are *Cumming* ;’ and the clans with their *Andrew Ferraras* ; then they *Mountcastle* with the *Bold Frasers*, *Sutherlands*, *Camerons*, and *M'Donalds*, *M'Dougalls*, *M'Glashans*, *M'Alpins*, *M'Bains*, *M'Alisters*, *M'Gregors*, *M'Phersons*, *M'Leods*, *M'Nabs*, *M'Intoshes*, *M'Leans*, *M'Kenzies*, *M'Kays*, with *Donaldson*, *Jameson*, *Robson*, *Thomson*, *Johnson* ; and to command them we have *Abercrombie* and *Graham*.

By sea, *Bing*, *Howe*, *Duncan*, *Mitchell*, *Nelson*, and *Cochrane* ; and for *Armour*, we have *Guns*, *Swords*, *Spears*, *Baigenets*, *Daggers*, *Shields*, *Forts* with *Cannans*, *Bows*, *Bowmen*, and *Archers*, who so nobly guarded our most gracious Sovereign, when he condescended to visit his ancient Metropolis of *Scotland*.

So I have brought you to the *Townsend*, and bid you all *Godby* !

<sup>1</sup> *Doons*, downs.

<sup>2</sup> *Yetts*, gates.





## CHAPTER VII.

### OF IRISH SURNAMES.



Si if to maintain the characteristic of an aptitude for blundering said to belong to the sister island, what has been written upon the family nomenclature of Ireland has generally been ill-founded and erroneous. So, at least,

Mr. O'Donovan asserts, in his able and interesting articles communicated to a most meritorious, but now, unfortunately, extinct periodical, illustrative of the antiquities and traditions of Ireland.\* This blundering is mainly attributable to an ignorance of the primeval language of the country on the part of the writers who have undertaken to illustrate the subject. Mr. O'Donovan's essays, on the contrary, exhibit a profound knowledge, not only of the language, but of the history and genealogy of his countrymen; and hence I am induced to give a brief general view of his labours in connexion with the family nomenclature of these realms.

The great majority of Irish surnames are derived from the proper names of distinguished ancestors. Local surnames rarely or never occur. Even the names of clans or septs formerly in use were taken from the

\* Irish Penny Journal, 1841, pp. 326, 330, 365, 381, 396, 405, 413.

names of distinguished chieftains, and not from the districts they inhabited. In the early records of the country, certain terms expressive of DESCENT are constantly employed to distinguish the various tribes. The *tribe-names* were formed from those of the progenitors by prefixing the following words :

1. *Corc*, *Corca*, race, progeny, as Corc-Modhruadh, now Corcomroe in Clare ; Corca-Duibhne, now Corcaguinny, in Kerry.\*

2. *Cineal*, race, descendants, *genus*. Cineal Eoghain, the race of Eoghan.

3. *Clann*, children, descendants, as Clann Colmain.

4. *Dal*, tribe, descendants, as Dal-Riada, Dal-g-cais. This word "properly signifies posterity, or descent by blood ; but, in an enlarged and figurative sense, it signifies a district, that is, the division, or part allotted to such posterity."†

5. *Muintir*, family, people, as Muintir Murchadha, the tribe-name of the O'Flahertys before the establishment of surnames.

6. *Siol*, seed, progeny, as Siol Aodha, the seed of Hugh.

7. *Tealach*, family, as Tealach Eathach, the family of Eochy.

8. *Sliocht*, posterity, as Sliocht Aodha Slaine, the progeny of King Hugh Slany, in Meath.

9. *Ua*, grandson, descendant ; nominative plural, *ui* ; dative or ablative, *uibh*. This prefix, which is far more

\* In England and other European countries the general family nomenclature is derived from places ; in Ireland, on the other hand, the names of persons and families were imposed on localities in the patriarchal or Asiatic mode.

† So *tribus* and *pagus* apply both to a particular subdivision of a nation or *gens*, and to the district they inhabit.

usual than the others, is the "O" so common in the existing surnames of the Irish. "Ui," or "I," the plural form of it, was formerly prevalent.

It appears that, up to the period of King Brian Boru, in the tenth century, the Irish people were distinguished by these tribe-names only. That monarch issued "an edict that the descendants of the heads of tribes and families then in power should take name from them, either from the fathers or grandfathers, and that these names should become hereditary and fixed for ever." In compliance with this mandate, the *O'Briens* of Thomond took their name from the monarch Brian Boru himself, who was slain at the battle of Clontarf, in the year 1014. Other "family names were formed either from the names of the chieftains who fought in that battle, or from those of their sons or fathers: thus the *O'Mahonys* of Desmond are named from Mahon, the son of Kian, king of Desmond, who fought in this battle; the *O'Donohoes* from Donogh, whose father, Donnell, was the second in command over the Eugenic forces in the same battle; the *O'Donovans* from Donovan, whose son, Cathal, commanded the Hy-Cairbre in the same battle; the *O'Dugans* of Fermoy from Dugan, whose son, Gevenagh, commanded the race of the Druid Mogh Roth in the same battle; the *O'Faelans*, or *Phelans*, of the Desies, from Faolan, whose son, Mothla, commanded the Desii of Munster in the same memorable battle; as were the *Mac Murroughs* of Leinster from Murrough, whose son, Maelmordha, king of Leinster, assisted the Danes against the Irish monarch. The *Mac Carthys* of Desmond are named from Carrthach, who is mentioned in the Irish annals as having fought the battle of Maelkenney, in 1043; the *O'Conors*, of Connaught, from Conor, or Concovar,

who died in 971; the *O'Melaghlin*s of Meath, the chiefs of the southern Hy-Niall race, from Maelseachlainn, or Malachy II, monarch of Ireland, who died in the year 1022; the *Magillapatricks*, or *Fitzpatricks*, of Ossory, from Gillapatrik, chief of Ossory, who was killed in the year 995," &c.

Hence it will be seen that the practice of taking up stationary surnames dates somewhat earlier in Ireland than in this country. But, as in all early family nomenclature, the Irish names fluctuated considerably for some ages subsequently to their first introduction, and names which had been borne for a generation or two were exchanged for others, thus the *O'Malroni*, of Moyburg, became *Mac Dermot*, and *O'Laughlin*, head of the northern Hy-Niall, *Mac Laughlin*. In some instances the minor branches of families changed the original prefix "O" to Mac and Mac O, or Mac I, on acquiring new territories.

"O," as we have already seen, literally means *grandson*; but, in a more enlarged sense, any male descendant, like the Latin *nepos*. "Mac" signifies *son*, or male descendant. "The former word is translated 'nepos' by all the writers of Irish history in the Latin language . . . and the latter 'filius.'" The only difference, therefore, between the surnames with *O* and those with *Mac* is, that those who assumed the latter adopted the father's name or PATRONYMIC, while those who took the former, chose the designation of the grandfather, the PAPPONYMIC. The prefix *Ni*, meaning daughter, was formerly used with female names, as *Ni Brien*, *Ni Connor*.

Mr. O'Donovan thinks it not unlikely that at the first assumption of surnames some families "went back several generations to select an illustrious ancestor on



whom to build themselves a name." He mentions an instance of this retrospection in our own times when John Mageoghegan, Esq. of Galway, applied to king George IV for license to reject the surname which his family had borne for eight centuries, from an illustrious chief ECHAGAN, in order that he might adopt a new name from a more antient and still more illustrious ancestor, "NIALL of the Nine Hostages," monarch of Ireland in the fourth century ! If Mr. Mageoghegan could prove an authentic pedigree to that famous worthy, his family must have been more antient than that of any crowned head in Europe. But whether his genealogy was successfully made out or not, his claim was allowed, and his son and successor now rejoices in the name of John Augustus O'Neill.

A false impression prevails in Ireland that the 'O' is more respectable than the 'Mac,' whereas no such distinction really exists, inasmuch as every family of Firbolgic, Milesian, or Danish original is entitled to bear either prefix. Mr. O'Donovan proves this by the instance of a beggar having been an 'O,' while several 'Macs' have been sovereign princes. In Connaught the gentry of Milesian descent are called O'Conor, O'Flaherty, O'Malley, &c., while the peasantry, their collateral relatives, have disused the 'O' and style themselves simply Connor, Flaherty, and Malley. The 'O's' are far more numerous than the 'Macs'; for in a genealogical MS. referred to by Mr. O'Donovan, two thousand of the former are found, while the latter amount to no more than two hundred.

The ground of the misapprehension appears to be this, that, with the exception of the solitary name O'Gowan, the 'O' was never prefixed to any surname derived from art, science, or trade. The cause of this rule yet remains to be discovered.

Besides these hereditary surnames, most of the chieftains of old had certain personal cognomens, as Niall Roe, Niall the Red ; Niall More, Niall the Great ; Con Bachach, Con the Lame ; Henry Avrey, Henry the Contentious ; Shane au Dimais, John the Proud. Sometimes the sobriquet was taken from the families by whom the personages were fostered, as Shane Donnellach, so called from his having been reared by O'Donnelly ; and Felim Devlinach, from his foster-father O'Devlin. All these were O'Neills by family and surname. Sometimes the cognomen was applied posthumously, and referred to the place where the individual lost his life, as Brian Chatha au Duin, " Brian of the Battle of Down."

The following observations on nicknames, written by Sir Henry Piers in 1682, in reference to Ireland, apply with equal propriety to England and several other countries, and contain an illustration of the manner in which great numbers of hereditary surnames have been acquired :

"They take much liberty, and seem to do it with delight, in giving of nicknames ; and if a man have any imperfection or evil habit, he shall be sure to hear of it in the nickname. Thus, if he be blind, lame, squint-eyed, grey-eyed, be a stammerer in speech, be left-handed, to be sure he shall have one of these added to his name ; so also from the colour of his hair, as black, red, yellow, brown, &c. ; and from his age, as young, old ; or from what he addicts himself to, as in draining, building, fencing, or the like ; so that no man whatever can escape a nickname who lives among them, or converseth with them ; and sometimes so libidinous are they in this kind of raillery, that they will give nicknames *per antiphrasin*, or contrariety of

speech. Thus a man of excellent parts, and beloved of all men, shall be called *Grana*, that is, naughty or fit to be complained of; if a man have a beautiful countenance or lovely eyes, they will call him *Cueegh*, that is, squint-eyed; if a great housekeeper, he shall be called *Ackerisagh*, that is, greedy.”\*

In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, when the Irish families increased, and their territories underwent subdivision by the rival chieftains of the same family, each chief assumed for distinction's sake some addition to the family surname; thus there were ‘*the*’ Mac Dermot, the head of his race, and his tributaries, Mac Dermot Roe or ‘the Red,’ and Mac Dermot Gall or ‘the Anglicised;’ again Mac Carthy More or ‘the Great,’ Mac Carthy Reagh, or ‘the Swarthy,’ and Mac Carthy Muscryagh, i. e. ‘of Muskerry,’ the place of his residence; and again, O’Connor Roe, ‘the Red-haired,’ and O’Connor *Don*, ‘the Brown-haired.’ All these additional names were perpetuated by the representatives of each branch for a long period, and even now are not extinct. An *O’Connor Don* not long since had a seat in the imperial parliament. It is a popular error in Ireland, that the ‘Don’ is a title of honour borrowed from the Spanish, and signifying Lord, because the O’Connor Don happens to be the chieftain of his family; whereas, as we have just seen, it is merely an hereditary epithet borrowed from a physical peculiarity of the original bearer of it.

The family nomenclature of Ireland, it will be observed, had assumed a definite shape previously to its conquest by the English. The natural result of so important an event would be some modification of it.

\* Vallancey’s Collectanea, vol. i, p. 113.

But history shows us that it is not always the party which is politically the stronger that exercises a modifying power upon the weaker. The laws, the manners, and even the language of the conquered often become, in the lapse of ages, those of the conqueror: in general, however, there is a reciprocating and an amalgamating influence at work, and both nations lose something of their antient peculiarities; and this to a certain extent was the case in the instance before us. Would that the blending of the races had been as complete as that of the Normans and the Saxons became on our side the water, and that the distinction between Irish and English were for ever merged, so that in *names* only all traces of an original diversity were discoverable! But let us return to Mr. O'Donovan's useful and interesting researches.

"After the murder, in 1333, of William de Burgo, third Earl of Ulster of that name, and the lessening of the English power which resulted from it, many if not all the Anglo-Norman families located in Connaught became hibernicized—*Hibernis ipsis Hiberniores*—spoke the Irish language, and assumed surnames in imitation of the Irish, by prefixing 'Mac' to the Christian names of their ancestors. Thus the De Burgos took the name of Mac William from their ancestor William de Burgo," from whom "sprang many offshoots, who took other names from their respective ancestors." Hence the Mac Davids, Mac Shoneens (from John—and now changed to Jennings), Mac Gibbons, Mac Andrews, and among many others, "the very plebeian name of Mac Phaudeen,\* from an ancestor called Paudeen, or Little Patrick!" "The De Exeters assumed the name of Mac Jordan from Jordan de Exeter,

\* Qu. if this be not the origin of *Faden*?



the founder of that family, and the Nangles that of Mac Costello; . . . a branch of the Butlers took the name of Mac Pierce, and the Powers or Poers that of Mac Shere." The Stapletons and a branch of the Burkes assumed the strange name of *Gaul*, which then signified 'Englishman,' though at an earlier date it had been a term applied by the Irish to foreigners of every country.

"On the other hand, the Irish families who lived within the English pale and in its vicinity, gradually conformed to the English customs and assumed English surnames, and their doing so was deemed to be of such political importance that it was thought worthy of the consideration of parliament." In 1465 (5 Edw. IV) an act passed intituled, "an Act, that the Irish men dwelling in the counties of Dublin, Myeth, Uriell and Kildare, shall goe apparelled like English men, and weare their beards after the English maner, sweare allegiance, and take *English Surname*."\* This act directs every Irishman whom it concerns to "take to him an English Surname of one towne, as *Sutton, Chester, Trym, Skryne, Corke, Kinsale*; or colour, as *White, Blacke, Browne*; or arte or science, as *Smith or Carpenter*; or office, as *Cooke, Butler*; and that he and his issue shall use this name under payne of forfeiting of his goods yearely till the premises be done." Thus compelled, the Mac and O'Gowans became *Smiths*; the Shanachs, *Foxes*; and the Geals,† *Whites*; the Mac Intires, *Carpenters*; the Mac Cogrys, *L'Estranges*; and Mac Killy, *Cock*. Other families resisted this persecuting mandate and clung as resolutely to their

\* Rot. Parl., c. 16.

† Mr. O'Donovan denies that *Geal* (white) was ever used as an Irish surname. It is, however, not unusual in England.

O's and Macs as they did to everything else that could express their feeling of nationality.

The process of anglicising Irish surnames has gradually continued down to our own times. After the battles of Aughrim and the Boyne, when the pride of the Irish was more thoroughly humbled than it had ever been before, numbers of families of all ranks assimilated their names to the English by the rejection of their two old characteristic prefixes and by an accommodated orthography. One Felim O'Neill, a gentleman, changed his name to Felix Neele, which drew down upon him a caustic Latin epigram, written by a patriotic poet and scholar, named Mac Conwy. Mr. O'Donovan gives us the following translation of it :—

“ All things has Felix changed, has changed his name ;  
Yea, in himself he is no more the same.  
Scorning to spend his days where he was reared,  
To drag out life among the vulgar herd,  
Or trudge his way through bogs in bracks and brogues,  
He changed his creed, and joined the Saxon rogues  
By whom his sires were robbed ; he laid aside  
The arms they bore for centuries with pride,  
The Ship, the Salmon, and the famed Red Hand,  
And blushed when called O'Neill in his own land !  
Poor paltry skulker from thy noble race,  
*Infelix Felix*, weep for thy disgrace !”

Among plebeian families, the old Irish names have been so far anglicised that Mr. O'Donovan thinks that in the course of half a century it will be difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish to which race many families belong, except indeed by the aid of history and physiognomical characteristics. The change is made either by ‘paring down’ a name, or by translating it. The antient name of O'Mulmoghery is now

always rendered *Early*, because *moch-eirghe* signifies ‘early rising.’ O’Marcachain is translated by some to Ryder—anglicised by others to Markham; O’Hiomair is anglicised Howard among the peasantry, and Ivers among the gentry; O’Beirne has become, in some of its branches, Byron, and in others, Bruin. Mr. O’Donovan instances many other families who have thus changed their names, but those above given are sufficient for our purpose here.

Other families have *gallicised* their names, as O’Dorcy to D’Arcy; O’Malley to De Maillet; O’Mulaville to Lavelle; O’Dulainé to Delany, as if from De Lani; O’Dowling to Du Laing; there are even a few instances of *hispanicism*, as O’Malrony to O’Muruaana! A desire to assimilate with their fellow-subjects, the English—call it cool prudence, imbecility, absence of patriotism, or what you will—offers some excuse for the adoption of our patronymics by the Irish; but this assumption of French and Spanish names looks like sheer vanity, and strongly reminds one of the story of Jack Anvil in the Spectator, who, to please an aspiring wife, styled himself Mr. John D’Enville!

All these changes are of course very unpalatable to Mr. O’Donovan, and he is by no means sparing of his censure thereupon. He looks however with a more lenient eye upon some *contractions*, such as M’Keogh, and Keogh from Mac Eochy; Ennis and Guinness from Mac-Gennis; Conry from O’Mulconry; Kilkenny from Mac Gillakenny; “especially when the changes are made for the purpose of rendering such names easy of pronunciation in the mouths of magistrates and lawyers, who could not, in many cases, bring their organs of speech to pronounce them in their original Irish form.”

The practice of assimilation has likewise been extended to Christian names. Thus Cathell (the same with the Welsh *Cadell*—now, by the way, become an English surname) signifying ‘warlike,’ was changed to Charles in compliment to king Charles I. So Conor has been supplanted by Cornelius, Dermot by Jeremiah, Donogh by Denis, Moriartagh by Mortimer, Finghin by Florence, Donnell by Daniel, Ardgall by Arnold, Ferdoragh by Ferdinand, and Mogue by Moses. I cannot follow Mr. O’Donovan through his etymological objections to these alterations; but it may be as well to remark that the similarity of sound—often slight enough it must be confessed—is the only ground upon which they can be based, since the adopted name is generally quite at variance, as to meaning, with the original appellative.\*

This cursory review of Mr. O’Donovan’s essays, I venture to think, will prove very acceptable to English readers. For those who would desire to see the subject more fully treated, I cannot do better than advise them to procure his lucubrations at length in the interesting periodical before referred to, which is altogether highly valuable for its illustrations of Irish life, manners, feelings, and antiquities.

\* In the *Annals of the Four Masters*, vol. i, pp. 41 and 42, is given a list of Irish personal names, with the English names which have usurped their places. Some of the former are highly expressive and poetical in their original signification; as—

## MALE.

Ardgal, exalted valour.

Cormac, son of a chariot.

Toirdhealbhadh, a man of tower-like stature.

## FEMALE.

Dervorgil, purely fair daughter.

Fionnghuala, fair-shouldered woman.

Feithfailge, honey-suckle of ringlets.





## CHAPTER XXV.

### OF NORMAN SURNAMES.



HOPE I shall not be charged with wandering from my subject by travelling out of England for the purpose of illustrating our Family Nomenclature. Having devoted two chapters to Scottish and Irish Surnames, it was my inten-

tion to have written a brief essay on those of France (and particularly of Normandy), when I met with the able and interesting Letters of Monsieur de Gerville, the veteran archæologist, on this topic, in the 'Memoirs of the Society of Antiquaries of Normandy,' On a careful perusal of these documents, I perceived that I had ready to my hand a far better view of the surnominal characteristics of that province than any original dissertation of my own could furnish. I have therefore undertaken a translation of M. de Gerville's third Letter, which relates wholly to Surnames (as the first and second do to names of localities), in the hope that my readers may derive the same pleasure from the perusal of it as it has afforded myself; and with a view to the fuller illustration of our main topic—the history and meaning of English Surnames.

TRANSLATION of M. DE GERVILLE'S THIRD LETTER on the PROPER NAMES used in NORMANDY, printed in vol. xiii of '*Mémoires de la Société des Antiquaires de Normandie*' (1844), pp. 283-296.

After having, in the two preceding letters, sketched the names of habitations, I will now fulfil my promise of doing as much for their *inhabitants*. Notwithstanding my desire for brevity, this subject demands so many details that I shall approach it without preface. I shall commence with the names which can be proved to have existed amongst us in the times of the Merovingians. In the number of these, some are of Latin original; but the majority will be found to be Teutonic. I might begin with the names of the bishops of our cities, and those of the superiors of our great monasteries, but they are to be found in the eleventh volume of '*Gallia Christiana*,' which is now well known in Normandy; I pass, therefore, to the names of functionaries of another class—those who coined the royal money in Normandy under the Merovingians. In citing these I shall have the twofold advantage of exhibiting the names of those officers of whom few have heard, and those of many of the places of our province where money was coined at this epoch, with the proportion which the Latin bear to the German. This proportion is much less subject to dispute among the civil functionaries than among the higher ecclesiastics, many of whose Teutonic names are latinized in the acts of councils. I give the places in alphabetical order. In each place I shall mark the names of the mint-masters; those which appear to me

to be Teutonic I shall underline, while those which resemble Latin I shall pass by without observation.

*Abrincae* or *Abrincktae* (Avranches), *Berulf*, *Leudulf*, *Sepagiens*.

*Alna*, Laune (canton de Lessay), *Arigis*.

*Baiocae*, Bayeux, *Anderanus*, *Antidiotus*, *Chidolen*.

*Brixia*, *Brixis vico*, Brix, between Valognes and Cherbourg, *Dlauno*, *Waldon*.

*Costanca*, Coutances, *Leudomar*, *Rionicius*.

*Doroccae*, Dreux, *Gondofrid*.

*Ebroicae*, Evreux, *Ansoald*, *Eridegisel*, *Eligius*, or *Elegius*, or *Elicius*. (?)

*Gemeliaco*, Jumièges, *St. Filbert* (probably St. Filbert, abbot of Jumièges; the name of *Gemedico* also occurs), *Nectarius*.

*Lixiovius civitas*, Lisieux . . . . .

*Loco sancto* or *santco* (Lieuxaint, near Valognes), *Ascariaco*, *Dacoald*.

*Rodomo*, *Rotomo*, *Rotomago* (Rouen), *Anoald*, *Audomund*, *Baudacharius*, *Bertchramnus*, *Chagnoald*, *Gniloac*, *Desiderio*, *Ernebert*, *Melgito*.

*Saius*, *ii*, (Séez), *Murnus*.

*Sanctae ecclesiae* (Ste. Mère-Eglise), *Austomerit*.\*

After these names, which will appear very barbarous (and which are perhaps wholly Teutonic), I hasten to others which will be better understood; and first to those which indicate the countries from which the ancestors of those who bear them sprang. The name of *Mancel*, or *de Mansel*, designates a person originally from Maine.

*L'Angevin*, *le Poitevin*, *le Normand*, *le Bret* or *le Breton*, *l'Anglais*. In all these names, which are

\* The *italics* are as I have here given them; the distinction promised by M. de Gerville having been overlooked by the printer.—TRANS.

very common in Normandy, you perceive the country of those who were at one and the same time under the government of the dukes of Normandy and the kings of England,—particularly of the Plantagenets. At this epoch the people of these countries were brethren.

Another class of names of countries marks the soldiers, who, under the reigns of Henry II, Richard Cœur de Lion, and John Sans-Terre, often supplied the places of those who were permitted to redeem themselves from military service. These are the *Picards*, *Flamands* (Flemings), and *Brabançons* (Brabantines). The last often took the name of *Barbanchons*, which is still very common in the Cotentin.\*

The *Gallois* and the *Escots* are subdivisions of the English (Welsh and Scots). In the word Escot you observe the initial 'E,' which always occurs when a name commences with an 'S' followed by a consonant.

After these names of provinces, we have those of their subdivisions, as the *Haguais*, inhabitants of the Hague, and the *Briseis*, the people of Brix.

The provinces furnish the first great family names; then follow the arrondissements, the cantons, and the communes, during the whole period of ecclesiastical domination.

Christianity has introduced one half of our family names; and baptismal names abound with the corruptions which time has produced.

From JEAN (John), which is one of the most widely-spread, have been formed *Jeanet*, *Jeanin*, *Jennet*, *Jeanot*, *Jehan*, *Johan*, *Jouhan*, *Jouan*, and also *Hannes*, which is the termination of Johannes. This final is much more common in Germany than in France. I know many families of Hannes in Normandy.

\* COTENTIN: the district around Coutances.—TRANS.



From JACQUES or JAME (James), which was Norman before it was English, are derived the surnames of *Jacquot, Jacquin, Jacquet, Jacquart, Jacquemin, Jacqueminot, Jamin, Jamart, Jametel, Jamot.*

From PIERRE (Peter) we have insensibly formed those of *Perrin, Pierret, Pierrot, Pierrolin* or *Perrolin, Pierrelin.*

MATTHEW has undergone great alterations, and has furnished a string of family names, as *Macé, Mahé, Mathey, Mahieu, Massieux, Massy.*

From ST. BRICE we have formed the names of *Brissons* or *Briçon*, and its diminutive *Brissonet, Bricard, Brizard, Brizon.*

Among our names of families derived from those of Saints, I would have you remark the termination in *ire*, to which I should have paid no attention if it were not common and like the consequence of a fixed principle: the names of *Basire, Cecire, Sebire*, and *Mabire* are sufficiently common in Normandy. They certainly come from *Basile, Cecile, Sebille* or *Sybille*, and *Mabile*. This substitution, which has acquired force by custom, is not according to the usual mode of our alterations of names.

The Old Testament names, so common among the Jews, are much less so with us. We have however many *Adams*, particularly in the great communes of *Brix* and *Sottevast*, near *Valognes*. This is accounted for by the fact that many of the lords of those places bore the name of *Adam*, which was also adopted by their vassals (a practice which still exists in Scotland), as the name of a tribe. The celebrated *Walter Scott* bore the name of the clan *Scott*, of which the Duke of *Buccleugh* is the chief, and what is curious, the duke

seeks his surname in Normandy, and pretends that it was originally *l'Escot*. (!)

The name of *Abraham* is rare in Normandy, as is also that of *Isaac*. *Jacob* is confounded with Jacques (James). *David*, *Davy*, and *Daviel* are very common ; so also is *Salomon*, and particularly *Salmon*.

*Elie* (Elias), *Eliot*, *Liot*, and *Liard* furnish us with many names in Normandy.

If we could ascend to the source of these names we should often find that many of them belong to families of the Jewish race who have become Christians, either through persuasion, or, more frequently, in consequence of the incessant persecutions to which the Jews were exposed during the middle ages, when they were sometimes very numerous in all parts of our province. In the north of the Cotentin we have few large villages, however rural, which have not their 'Jews' Street' (*rue des Juifs*), which proves at the same time the state of isolation to which they were subjected.

Among our more modern saints, many of our primitive missionaries have given their names to families. Among these names may be reckoned *Aubin*, *Martin*, *Sanson*, *Brice*, *Malo*, *Ravend*.

It may be said, perhaps, that I have made the district of the Cotentin most conspicuous in this subdivision. This should not surprise any ; for every one takes by preference the objects which are at hand. I throw down in haste my superficial observations ; and every one is at liberty to make the application to the names which are most familiar to him.

I have not as yet said anything of *feminine* surnames, which have likewise borne a great part in the denomination of our families. *Marie* would of course

stand at the head of these. A great number of families bear this name. It has also many derivatives, such as *Mariette, Mariotte, Mariolle, Marion*.

*Anne* and *Jeanne* are but little less common in our Norman families.

*Catherine, Marguerite, Marguerin, and Marguerie* have given their names to many families.

I could not finish, if I should undertake, an enumeration of this kind; but I must not forget that I am merely making general observations. I will only notice, in passing, that the female names in our families often give rise to suspicions of illegitimacy.

After these feminine names I would point out those which seem to belong to saints of a German origin. Among these are many which terminate in *Mond*, as *Osmond, Vimond, Evremond, and Vermond*. Instead of the 'D' final a 'T' is often used, because it is more readily understood; but this substitution gives a false meaning; for *mond* signifies the mouth or outlet of a river, whereas *mont* means a mountain or height. *Osmond, Evremond, Vimond, and Vermond* have all the same signification.

*Bernard, Barnard, Berners, Barnette, and Brenet* are common throughout Normandy. Our name of *Barneville*, which belongs to three departments of the province, comes from this source. *Bern* in German means a bear; but by the substitution of 'V' for 'B,' which is exceedingly frequent, we get an etymology which is far more natural: that of a *river*, which requires no change.

The names of *Godefroy, Godefray, Jefrey, Geoffroy*, again, is German, and signifies 'peace of God'—*Godfrid*. This is the name which was borne by the chief of the royal house of Plantagenet, and the founder

of the cathedral of Coutances, who was at once a great warrior and a great bishop.

Before leaving baptismal names, I think I ought to give some examples of the kind of transformation which the termination 'E' undergoes in some of these names.

In speaking of the name of Matthieu and its variations, I have said that it sometimes changes itself into Mathé, Macé, and even Mahé. The names ending in é, such as André and Hervé, often become *Andrieu* and *Hervieu*. From *Andrieu* we often make *Drieu*. *Hervieu* in Brittany retains its primitive termination *Hervé*. Sometimes in Normandy we call it *Hervot*. In composition we often make *Hervu* and *Andru*—l'Andrurie and la Hervurie signify the habitation of André and of Hervé.

One eastern saint, St. Nicholas, whose Greek name was perhaps unknown in Normandy prior to the Crusades, has given his designation to a great number of French and Italian families. But although it is of such recent introduction into France, it has nevertheless taken very numerous developments in our family nomenclature. We have everywhere the names of *Nicol*, *Nicolet*, *Colas*, *Colart*, *Colardin*, *Colardeau*, *Collet*, and *Collette*.

Of *GUILLEAUME* or *VILLEAUME* (William) we have formed the names of *Guillot*, *Guillotte*, *Guillard*, *Villot*, *Villard*, *Guillemin*, *Villemain*, *Guillemette*, *Guilmard*, *Guilmot*, *Guilmoto*, and *Guillemino*.

I shall close my remarks upon this Teutonic nomenclature with a doubtful name, whose origin vacillates between the Latin and the German: it is that of *Gisles* (Giles), which in Latin has been made *Ægidius*, but which is probably derived from the German word *Gisel*, or *Gesel*. This word signifies 'a companion.'



It has furnished us with the following modifications : *Gislart, Girot, Gislain, Giret, Girard, Gillette, Gillart,* and *Gillon* or *Villon*.

I cannot pass in silence the name of Charlemagne, some of whose contemporaries have made him a saint. What is more certain is, that from his time to that of St. Charles Borromée, seven or eight kings of France have borne his name, to say nothing of other princes and of thousands of nobles and private persons. In the great chronicles of St. Denis, the original name of Karl is translated Charles. Charles the Bald there styles himself Charles le Cauf. From Cauf we have formed the names of *Cauvin, Chauvin, Cauvé,* and *Chauvé*, which have introduced themselves into families in plenty.

We pass now to the names of functionaries civil, military, and ecclesiastical. The kings, the princes, the dukes, the marquises, the counts, the viscounts, the barons, the lords, the bailiffs, and the provosts, are well represented in all the families of the province. Everybody understands these names.\*

The bishops, the canons, the abbots, the priors, and the clerks† are not more rare and they present no difficulty ; but we had formerly, in our forests, officers whose titles show a Germanic origin. The names of *Walter, Vaultier, Gualtier,* and *Vatier* are derived from the German word Wald, which signifies ‘ forest,’ so that *Vaultier* and *Forestier* are synonyms. The names of

\* Viz. : *Le Roi, Le Prince, Le Duc, Le Marquis, Le Comte* (whence our own *Lecount*), *Le Vicomte, Le Baron, Le Seigneur, Le Bailli,* and *Le Provot,* or *Prevot*. These, it is almost unnecessary to add, are frequently used without the prefixed article as *Roi* ; sometimes combined with it, as *Leroi,* or *Leroy*.—TRANS.

† *L'Evêque, Le Chanoine, L'Abbé, Le Prieur, Le Clerc*.

*Verdier*, *Verderie*, *Boscher* and *Buscher* designate the same functionaries, but perhaps in an inferior rank. The names of *Lavarde* and *La Verderie* mark the space assigned to each guard. Sometimes, however, *Verdérie* is employed in the sense of jurisdiction. The *Verdier* was a judge of petty offences against the forest laws.

We find also many surnames given on account of the stature, the *tournure*, the complexion, or the hair, and often on account of the bodily infirmities and deformities of the ancestor of each family.

How many persons have we known by the names of *Le Grand*, *le Petit*, *le Gros*, *le Gras*, *le Grêle*, *le Blanc*, *le Brun*, *le Blond*, *le Rous*, *le Rouge*, *le Noir*, *Blondin*, *Blondeau*, *Blondel*, *Travers*, *Caignon* (mean, pitiful), *Gars* or *Galus* (squinting). Others are known by bad qualities, as *Mauduit*, *Mauvoisin*, *Mauclerc*.

Others bear the names of animals, domestic or wild, as *Le Cat*, *le Kien* (it must be observed that *ch* before a vowel is sometimes pronounced as *k*), *Poulet*, *Pouchain*, *Coq*, *Capon*, *le Bœuf*, *le Renard*, *le Loup*, *le Taisson* (badger), *l'Oison*, *le Goupil* (fox), *l'Oisel* or *l'Oiseau*, *le Daim*, *le Lion*, *Louvel*, *Loveau* or *Loup*.

The love of property is very apparent in the history of our denominations. This chapter is immense; I can only point it out to those who may desire to examine the subject more thoroughly.

The *Châteaux*, the *Manoirs*, the *Mesnils* (a diminutive of manor), the *Mazures*\* and the *Maizieres*.\* these last names are of a subordinate rank. I will add the *Borderies*, the *Londes*, the *Essarts*, the *Esserts*, and even *Desert*, the *Coutures*, the *Croutes*, the *Berqueries*

\* In his second letter M. de Gerville derives these words from the Latin *mansio*, which is also the origin of "mesnil."—TRANS.

(bergeries), the *Bergers*, the *Bouveries*, the *Vacqueries*, the *Etableries*; I do not find the *écuries*, which proves the novelty of the word.

In former times horses were lodged in sheds (*éta-  
bles*);\* the English have retained this name, even for the places where the royal horses are kept (*stables*).

The *Longchamps*, the *Courtchamps*, the *Champs*, the *Haies*, the *Fossés*, the *Banques* (a word peculiar to some districts of Normandy, and signifying the same as the Latin *agger*), the *Marais* or *Maresq*, the *Prés*, the *Prairies*, the *Vergers*, the *Monts*, the *Vaux*, and the *Costils*, furnish names common throughout Normandy.†

The name of *Grange* is not very common; that of *Moutier*, or *Moustier*, or *Monstier*, or *Moitier*, to signify a place antiently occupied by monks [Anglicé, ‘minster,’ from ‘monasterium’], is more frequent. *Bouvier*, *Vacher*, *Bouverie* and *Vacquerie*, *Pasquier* and *Pasquet*, (pasturage) are not rare.

The *Rochers*, *Roques*, *Roches*, and *Roquiers* afford us many surnames. Frequently *le Roque* indicates an antient fortified manor-house, whence *Roquefort* and *Rocheftort*. When these ‘*roches*’ bear the name of a proprietor, as *Roche-Bernard*, *Roche-Mont*, they are often fortresses.

Woods and groves [*Bois* and *Boscq*] are inexhaustible sources of names. To this origin belong *Boissière*, *Bocage*, *Bosquet* or *Bauquet*, *Buquet*, and *Bucaille*—all common names.

\* The O. F. ‘*estable*’ meant a *shed*; not a comfortable building with windows and doors like a modern stable or *écurie*.—TRANS.

† Every one of these names has its counterpart in English *sur-nomenclature*: *Langfield*, *Shortfield*, *Field*, *Hedge*, *Ditch*, *Banks*, *Marsh*, *Greenfield*, *Meadow*, *Orchard*, *Mountain*, *Vale*, and *Shore*.—TRANS.

The *Rivières*, *Ruisseaux*, *Etangs*, and *Mares*\* likewise enter into our proper names. We find the *Taillis* and the *Forêts* [Underwoods and Forests] represented, but never the *futaies* [woods of lofty trees]. The *Buissons* [Bushes] have also their share, and so have the *Bissons* and the *Byssoneries*.

The *Landes* and the *Landais* [Heaths] naturally find themselves side-by-side with the *Buissons*. A very antient name for a coppice, *le Breuil*, is very common, as is also that of *Breuilly*. The name of *Broglie*, which has been naturalized in Normandy, has come to us from Italy, and it has the same meaning as *Breuil*. That of *Champagne* is not unusual, although the greater part of the champaign country has been divided and enclosed for centuries. It is not necessary to conclude that those who bear this name have come from the province of Champagne, since all our cultivated plains in old times bore this designation. In this sense it is still retained in England, where many Norman names which we have lost might be found, if wanted.

The stones themselves have not been overlooked in our nomenclature. The name of *La Pierre*, among us, goes back perhaps to Druidical stones; but these ordinarily have an epithet, as *Pierrefitte*, *Pierre-lée*, or *Pierre-levée*. The name of *Perrelle* indicates the possession of a stony ground; that of *Perruque*, in the same sense, is not very unusual in the Cotentin.

Although our ways and our roads usually escape our family nomenclature, we cannot say the same of our *Rues* and our *Chemins*. The names of *Perrière*, *Ferrière*, and *Quérière*, which signify antient roads, are not uncommon. The name of *Quérière*, which is

\* English equivalents: *River*, *Brook* (or *Beck*), *Pond*, and *Poole*.—TRANS.



not French, has nevertheless come into use : it signifies a course or way ; but a distinction must be made between *carrière*, a way, and *carrière*, a stone-quarry.

The business of the gardener is very antient ; this may be the reason why so many families bear the name *Jardinier*. Formerly we had our '*Gardin*' and '*Gardinier*' ; now we have our *Jardins* and *Jardiniers*, but the change took place long ago, since the latter names nearly equal the former.

In our country-places we have a name still more antient—that of *Courtil* or *Courtel* ; the latter is generally used in the singular, the former in the plural. These names, which belong to the middle ages, have not been overlooked in the Glossary of Ducange.

Many of our family names refer to the antient land measures of Normandy, the *Acres*, the *Arpents*,\* and the *Vergées*, which must not be confounded with the *Vergers*, the synonyme of 'plants.' This last name is probably not very antient, for I am not acquainted with a single family bearing it.

I have no need to speak of the *Monts*, the *Vaux*, the *Vallons*, and the *Vaucelles*.†

Among the trees which have furnished us with surnames, fruit trees form but a small number. We have some *Pommiers*, a few more *Poiriers* (or *Périers*), and very few *Pruniers* ; no 'pêchers' or 'abricotiers' which are of modern introduction ; plenty of *Epines*.

The name of *néflier* [medlar] is not antient ; it has replaced that of 'meslier.'

The names of forest trees are oftener used as family names. The *Quesnes* (chênes) are found every-

\* Hence our *Larpent*.—TRANS.

† Eng. equivalents : *Hill, Vale, Dale*, and *Littledale*.—TRANS.

where, also the *Chesnées*, the *Quesnays*, the *Quesnois*.\* *Rouvre*, the more antient name of the oak, is not common among the family names of Normandy. *Rouvraie* is more frequent. *Frene* and *Bouleau* have been adopted generally enough, as well as their modifications, *Fresnaie*, *Fresnay*, *Boulaye*, and *Boulay*. The elm [*Orme*] was probably little known to our ancestors, as it scarcely finds a place among our surnames. It is still sufficiently rare in the vicinity of Brittany, where the chesnut is substituted for it, as among us, on the contrary, in times more remote, it assumed the place of the chesnut, which is often seen in the timber-work of our old houses.

The beech [*hêtre*] is not comprised in this exclusion; its use in Normandy is of long standing, though its present name is modern. It formerly bore one derived from the Latin ‘*fagus*,’ and was called *Fau*, *Fay*, *Fayel*, *Fou*. The ‘hanging-beech’ on the banks of the Orne is well known in the antient histories of William the Conqueror. Plantations of beech were called *Faye*, *Fayel*, *Fautlaie*.

In our country places the ‘*noyer*’ [walnut-tree] is often called ‘*gauguier* ;’ but as a family name, *Noyer* only is employed. The name of the ‘*noisetier*’ does not occur in this way, and those of *Noisette*, *Coudre*, *Coudraie*, or *Coudray* but rarely.†

The name of the ‘*aulne*’ [Alder] does not figure much among family names, but that of *Aunay*‡ is common enough.

\* *Quesnel* is also frequent in Normandy.—TRANS.

† They correspond exactly with our *Nut*, *Haseltree*, and *Hazelwood* or *Haslewood*: we have also adopted *Cowdray*, from the French ‘*coudraie*,’ which is likewise precisely our *Hazeltgrove*.—TRANS.

‡ *D’aunay* among old English surnames is well known. We have

The names of *Houx*\* and *Houssaie*, with those of *Houssin*, *Housset*, and *Houssart*, are not very uncommon.

If we may judge by the names of *Bussière*, *Bouisset*, (and perhaps *Boisset* and *Boissaye*), the box tree was formerly more cultivated than at present. I am not sure that *Boissière* comes from 'bouis' rather than from 'bois.'

Were I to enter more thoroughly into this subject, I should not be able to exhaust it, but I ought to repeat that I merely point out the subject in a superficial manner. My object is simply to call attention to a topic which has scarcely been noticed.

The chapter of names borrowed by families from agriculture, from the arts, from handicrafts, and from industry and commerce, ought not to be passed over in silence. This very extensive subject demands some elucidations.

The *Chartiers*, *Cartiers*, and the *Quartiers*, names of the conductors of carts and carriages, must not be overlooked. The *Bergers*, the *Pâtours* or *Pâtourel*s, the *Pastoureaux*, the *Pasquiers*, and the *Porchers* or *Porquers*, have no need of explanation.

The name of *Harivel* is very common. It is synonymous with that of *Haridelle*, which is still found in the modern dictionaries. 'Harivels' or 'harivelliers' are very common at our fairs: they are persons who trade only in 'harins' or 'haridelles,' small and inferior horses, leaving the traffic in coursers and animals of a superior quality to the jockeys.

also translated it to *Aldershaw*. From 'aulnette,' an old diminutive of 'aulne,' or alder, probably comes our *Allnutt*; but whence do we get *Nuttall*?—TRANS.

\* I never knew an Englishman with this prickly name (holly); we borrow, however, *Ihussey* from the Normans, and have, besides, our indigenous *Hollygroves*.—TRANS.

If we pass from the trade in horses to that in bullocks, we perceive from our family names that it is no less antient. The name of *Le Bœuf* is very frequent in Normandy, those of *Bouvier* and *Bouverie* are less so, because they belong more particularly to the pastoral districts. The names which designate the bull [taureau] have scarcely a place among our surnames: when they occur, they are written *Thoreau* and *Thorel*. The trade in cows, bulls, and sheep formerly belonged to the 'Bouvier.'

In speaking of sheep, I have forgotten to mention that the names of *Belier* and *Berrier*, which are synonymous, are often found as family names.

The arts make no great show in our family nomenclature. This may arise from the fact, that in former times artists contented themselves with names more modest than those which they now assume. The architects who built our splendid churches were satisfied with the title of 'machons' or 'maçons.' The name of *Machon*, which is often found in medieval documents, has taken the more polished form, as a family name, of *Maçon* or *Masson*.

The painters have, in part, retained the name of *Peinteur*; the alteration of this word commenced however at an early date, when some families of the name of *Lepeintre*, with the modern orthography, occur.

I have not found any families of the name of 'tailleur;' this business formerly bore that of *Couturier*. This alone is preserved in our family nomenclature; while our neighbours over the water have often introduced that of 'Taylor.'

No family has, as far as I am aware, adopted the name of 'cordonnier,' 'bottier,' or 'savetier,' which last is common in the south of France under the ortho-



graphy of *Sabatier*. All my researches to find the antient name in Normandy have been fruitless, unless it be that of *Sueur*, which is common enough, and which may be derived from 'sutor.'

We have in our country-places a surname which is sufficiently common, and which may bear this signification—that of *Cauchard*. These two conjectures I hazard, but I am far from presenting them as established. However that may be, the name of Cauchon, so well known in the history of Joan of Arc, is most certainly identical with our modern 'chausson : ' now the 'chausson' serves as a covering for the foot, and it is not far from that to Cauchard.

The *Carpentiers*, *Querpentiers*, or *Charpentiers* belong to all ages ; they evidently go back to the 'carpentarii' and to the 'carpentum' of the Romans. This name is very common. The English, who borrowed it from our ancestors, retain it as well as ourselves. The name of *Charron* or *Carron* [Anglicè, Cartwright], which belongs to a particular sort of carpenters, is not nearly so common as the preceding, and what appears to me singular, is the fact, that the name of *Houelleur*, which means 'charron' in English, is as common, at least in the Cotentin, as that of Carron or Charron. I imagine that it was introduced into Normandy during the thirty-two years' occupation of this country by the English in the fifteenth century. The English orthography is very different from ours, namely, *Wheeler* : it literally signifies a maker of wheels.

The joiners and cabinet-makers are not included in this nomenclature : this is probably to be accounted for by the comparative recency of these trades. It is not impossible, however, that our name of *Menicier*

may have some analogy with the calling of the joiner (*menuisier*).

The *Drapiers* have but a small share in our family names; it is probable that the name is more common in Flanders, where this branch of industry is very antient.

We have, however, a sufficient number of *Foulons*, but very few *Filassiers*,\* although flax is common in many parts of Normandy.

The *Pelletiers* (skinners) are common everywhere. This trade is as well represented in the families of England and Germany as in our own.

But the trade which is most widely extended throughout all parts of the province is that of the weaver [*Tisserand*], of which the clothiers [*Toiliers*] are a branch. The names of *Tellier*, *Tessier*, *Texier*, and *Tixier* are as common as possible. I have met with them everywhere, which is not surprising; since without such workmen we should be obliged, like the savages, to clothe ourselves in the skins of animals.

Agriculture has supplied us with two names, whose use is very circumscribed—the *Batteux* or *Batteurs* [thrashers] of corn, and the *Faucheux*, *Fauqueux*, or *Faucheurs* [mowers]. The *Batteux* are more common than the *Batteurs*.

But the artizans in metals are those who have furnished us with the most surnames. These are not restricted to any place—the manufacture of metals belongs to every country. This branch of industry originally bore a generic name among all the nations of Europe. Among us, and in the south of France, this name is derived from the Latin *faber*. Hence have

\* *Fullers* and *Flaxmans*.

the Italians their word ‘fabbro,’ the Provençals ‘fabre’ and ‘faure,’ and ourselves *Lefevre*. The Saxons and their descendants, as the Dutch and the English, derive it from ‘schmiden,’ which signifies to forge or smite. This has become Schmidt, which the English have refined to Smith, from which they have taken the names of *Gold-* and *Silver-smith*: with us there are only ‘*Or-fêvres*.’ In short, the name of *Fevre* among us, that of *Fabre* in the South, and that of *Schmidt* in Germany, are most common. In its primitive state, the name of *Fevre*, with us, still took the *b* of *Faber*, and was written *Febure*, or *Faibure*.

Among those who forge iron we have had, from time immemorial, two widely-spread divisions—the *Serruriers* and the *Maréchaux-Ferriers* [locksmiths and farriers]. The former are not, by a great deal, so numerous as the latter. This arises from their trade being more refined, and from their being subdivided into *Arbalétriers*, whom we call ‘arquebusiers’ [gunsmiths], and *Lorimiers*, who were engaged in the manufacture of defensive arms.\* All these subdivisions have left us some names, though in no great number.

It is not so with the ‘*maréchaux* ;’ they are to be found all over the country. From the higher functionaries of the military order to the humblest smiths, we meet with their names everywhere. The names of *Ferrier*, *Ferey*, *Feron*, *Ferrant*, and *La Forge* belong to this pursuit.†

\* I am not acquainted with the history of this word; it may originally have meant one who made *mail* and the whole of the defensive accoutrements of a warrior, and have had some relation to the Latin *lorica*. At present it means one who makes spurs and bits, and in this sense, even, it is obsolescent, if not obsolete.—TRANS. [Vide infra.]

† To these we should probably add *Ferrars*, *Ferrers*, *Ferris*, *Fears*, *Ferrey*, *Fearon*, and *Farrant*, all now naturalized in England.—TRANS.

Another class of workers in iron, the *Cloutiers*, [nailers,] has also furnished some names; but this occupation and the name of Cloutier is most frequent in the forest districts.

The manufacture of instruments in copper, or rather in brass, is less antient among us. It is said that the first braziers came to us from Auvergne, under the later Dukes of Normandy, through the marriage of Henry II with Eleanor, daughter of one of the Counts of Aquitaine. The first braziers established themselves at the extremity of the arrondissements of Avranches and St. Lo. It is still at Villedieu that they carry on their principal trade. Under the reign of Richard Cœur-de-Lion and his successor there was a military commandery which had constant communications with Auvergne. Their hawkers have always gone about under the name of *Magnants*, *Magnens* or *Magnans*—which is widely spread in Normandy.

The designations of the ‘arquebusier’ and the ‘armurier’ have not become surnames. This will cause no surprise, for the use of fire-arms is not of sufficiently early date. The *Arbalétriers* themselves are rare, because the use of the crossbow is far less antient than that of the simple [long] bow. This latter has furnished us with many surnames. Bows, as offensive weapons, ascend among all nations to the primitive period of their history.

The name of *Digard*, so common here, refers to the trade of the spur-maker, and to the period when the verb ‘diger’ was in use instead of ‘piquer.’ I think the name of *Diguet* has the same origin. The antient spurs, instead of rowels, had simply ‘diguets’ or ‘digarts’ [Anglicè ‘pryckespurs’].

I have mentioned the old word *Lorimier*, which has



left us some surnames. It reaches back to the times when war-horses were barbed with iron. The saddlers [*Selliers*] have displaced the Lorimiers: their occupation is less military as it is less *metallic*.

While speaking of the masons who constructed our houses of stone, I ought not to have forgotten those who covered their roofs. They are of three kinds—the thatchers, the tilers, and the slaters. The second have left us more names than both the others together. We have plenty of *Thuiliers* and *Thuileries*. It is probable that the thatchers had a widely-spread name, but it has escaped me. The names of *Couvreur* and *Choismier* will hardly do.\* As to the trade of those who cover buildings with slate, I have not found it represented in our family nomenclature, although the English have long since introduced the name of *Slater*. This, no doubt, arises from the fact of their great quarries of slate being near the sea, or adjacent to navigable rivers, and that of England being an island, and hence from an early period they have been able to bring in the slate by water conveyance, as we now do into some of the ports of Normandy.

I shall here close my slight view of the proper names of Normandy. I make no pretensions to having gone thoroughly into this important subject; but I believe I have succeeded in pointing out the means by which an inquirer may employ himself in a manner at once rational, simple, and easy.

I might well be reproached with omissions; but I repeat that I have not undertaken to treat profoundly the subject of proper names. I present only the canvas upon which I have sketched the first outline; and I

\* Qu.: will not the somewhat common name *Chaumier*?—TRANS.

beg that those who may desire to embroider the design, will not act like those of whom the great reformer of natural history makes complaint: "They have perched themselves upon my shoulders," said he, "and have treated me in a manner rather disdainful; *insidentes humeris non sine supercilio.*"

# Additional Prolusions.

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NAME-REBUSES,  
CANTING ARMS,  
PUNNING MOTTOES,  
ANAGRAMS, INN SIGNS,  
CHRISTIAN NAMES,  
ETC.





## A CHAPTER OF REBUSES.

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“ This for Rebus may suffice, and yet if there were more I think some lippes would like such kind of Lettuce.”—CAMDEN.

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THE word REBUS (from the ablative plural of the Latin RES) is accurately defined by Dr. Johnson as “a word represented by a picture.” Camden says that this whimsical mode of representing proper names by objects whose designations separately or conjointly bear the required sound (and which he calls “painted poesies”), was introduced into England from Picardy, after the wars between Edward the Third and the French.

Whatever may be thought of the puerility of hunting out a fanciful picture or device to answer a purpose which the *letters* of one's name would answer much better, the practice has the sanction of some eminent names in antient as well as in modern days. Even the great-minded *Cicero* was not too proud to represent his name by the paltry species of pulse called by us vetches or chick-pease, and by the Romans Cicer; and that, too, in a dedication to the gods. Many of the coins of Julius Cæsar bear the impress of an ELEPHANT, as the word *cesar* signifies that animal in the antient language of Mauritania.\* In like

\* Camden.

manner the sculptors Saurus and Batrachus carved upon their works, the one the figure of a LIZARD, and the other a FROG, as their names implied;\* and two Roman mint-masters distinguished themselves upon the coins struck by them—Florus by a FLOWER, and Vitulus by a CALF.

In that remarkable depository of the remains of the early Christians, the Catacombs at Rome, rebuses were very frequently carved upon the sepulchres. Thus the tomb of Dracontius exhibits a dragon, that of Onager, a wild ass, that of Leo, a lion; that of Doliens, a cask (dolium), and that of Porcella, a little pig. On that of a lady named Navira, is insculped the rude figure of a ship (navis), with an epitaph to the following purport—“NAVIRA IN PEACE—a sweet soul, who lived sixteen years and five months—a soul sweet as honey: this epitaph was made by her parents—the sign, a *ship*.”†

Having thus seen that there exists antient and classical authority for the use of rebuses, I shall proceed to set before my reader a dish of “lettuce” culled from the fruitful garden of Master Camden and elsewhere, and which I hope he will find *salted* and sugared to his palate.

“SIR THOMAS CAVALL, whereas *caval* signifieth a horse, engraved a galloping horse in his seale, with this limping verse :

“Thomae credite cum cernitis ejus Equum.”

*Trust Thomas when you see his Horse.*

\* Vide Donaldson's Connexion between Heraldry and Gothic Architecture, a work to which I am indebted for some other hints concerning rebuses.

† Dr. Maitland's Church in the Catacombs, pp. 225-6.

GILBERT DE AQUILA, alias Gislebertus Magnus, alias Gilbert Michel, founder of the priory of Michelham, temp. Henry III, was sometimes styled Dominus Aquilæ, Lord of the Eagle, and his rebus occurs in the shape of an *eagle* on the corporate seal of the town of Seaford, where he had possessions and influence.



JOHN EAGLESHEAD used as his rebus an *eagle's head*, surrounded with

*"Hoc aquilæ caput est, signumque figura Johannis."*

*This is the head of an eagle, the seal and badge of John.*

The ABBOT OF RAMSAY bore on his seal a *ram in the sea*, with this verse:

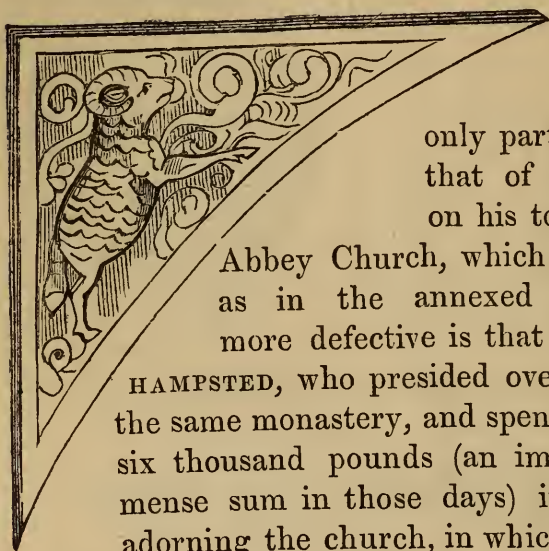
*"Cujus signa gero dux gregis ut ego!"*

*He whose signs I bear is LEADER OF THE FLOCK, as I am.*

Abbots, priors, and churchmen generally, were famous fellows for these name-devices, which, like oral puns, may be either apt and good, like those already mentioned, or forced and bad, like the following:

"William CHAUNDLER, warden of New College, Oxford, playing with his owne name, so filled the hall-windowes with *candles* and these words, *Fiat Lux*, [Let there be light,] that he *darkened* the hall; whereupon Vidam of Chartres, when he was there, said it should have been *FIANT TENEBRÆ*, [Let there be darkness!"] Here the rebus, to be correct, should have been a candle-maker "drawing his dips," like that of old BARKER, a printer of the sixteenth century, which

represents a man with an axe stripping *bark* from the trunk of a tree.



his device many times occurs: it is three *wheat-ears* fastened together



Some rebuses were defective, representing

only part of the name; as that of Abbot RAMRIDGE on his tomb in St. Alban's

Abbey Church, which gives only a *ram*, as in the annexed engraving. Still more defective is that of Abbot WHEAT-

HAMPSTED, who presided over the same monastery, and spent six thousand pounds (an immense sum in those days) in adorning the church, in which



with a wreath. The rebus of PETER RAMSAM, abbot of Sherborne, was a text or old English **Þ** inclosing a *ram* and an abbot's crosier. This still remains in Sherborne Church, as also another, viz., a *ram* holding a scroll inscribed **Peter Ramsam**.

I have given Abbot RAMRIDGE's imperfect rebus, on the authority of Mr. Donaldson, but an esteemed correspondent, Mr. F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A., has sent me another device of that dig-



nitary from the same church of St. Alban's, in which the *Ram* stands upon a rocky *ridge*, and holds in his fore feet an abbatial crosier, to shadow forth the official dignity of that church-decorating worthy, thus making the very best rebus I have yet met with.

The device of John *Alcock*, founder of Jesus College, Cambridge (and bishop of Ely), is conspicuous in every part of that college, and is a pun upon his name. It is a *cock* perched upon a *globe*, by which latter symbol it is to be presumed the *all* is adumbrated. On one window was a cock with a label from his mouth, with the inscription, "Εγω εἰμι ἀλέκτωρ; to which another, on the opposite side, bravely crows in reply, "Ουτως καὶ ἔγω.

"I am a cock!" the one doth cry,  
And t'other answers, "So am I."

TON being a common termination for names of places, and consequently for those of persons, has rendered a *tun* a favourite ingredient in rebuses, as the following list will show:

ARCHBISHOP THURSTON. A *thrush* upon a *tun*. This device still remains upon the ruins of Fountains Abbey, which that prelate founded.

ARCHBISHOP MORTON. The letters MOR upon a *tun*, and sometimes a mulberry tree (in Latin *morus*) issuing out of a *tun*.

LUTON. A *lute* upon a *tun*.

THORNTON. A *thorn* upon a *tun*.

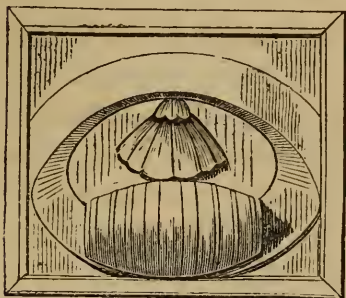
ASHTON. An *ash-tree* issuing out of a *tun*.

BOLTON, prior of St. Bartholomew's, in Smithfield. A bird-*bolt* through a *tun*.

HUNTINGTON (John), rector of Assheton-under-Lyme. "An huntsman with dogges whereby hee thought to expresse the two former syllables of his

name, *Hunting*; on the other syde a vessell called a *Tonne*, which being ioined together makes *Huntington*.”\*

Rebuses are occasionally of great use in determining the dates and founders of buildings. Thus the parsonage-house at Great Snoring, in Norfolk, is only known to have been built by one of the family of *SHELTON* by the device upon it representing a *shell* upon a *tun*.



The *REBUS* is generally found upon churches and other ecclesiastical buildings. I am inclined to believe that the ecclesiastics had a motive in employing these devices, which lay deeper than a mere playing upon words. It must be recollected that the majority of the persons who frequented the splendid edifices their piety or their vanity had adorned, were *unable to read any inscription* that might have recorded the benefaction; but these pictorial representations were intelligible to the most illiterate, and served to commemorate to the populace the names of the reverend fathers to whom they stood indebted for the sculptured glories of their houses of worship. Perhaps the general ignorance of the common people accounts for the absence of inscriptions on the sepulchral monuments of early date. Whatever may have been the motive, this omission is very much to be regretted, as all the acumen of learned antiquaries very often fails to assign them to their proper tenants. Very probable conclusions are sometimes arrived at

\* Hollingworth, his Chronicle of Manchester.

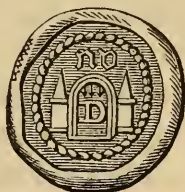
from the heraldic achievements, the costume of the statues with which tombs are adorned, and the posture of those figures; but the persons commemorated, are seldom satisfactorily ascertained.

Sometimes the whole range of visible objects could not furnish a full rebus. In such cases single letters, or even whole words, were adjoined to complete the device. Thus a capital A in a roundlet or *rundle* was made to do duty for the name of Thomas, Earl of ARUNDEL.



Sir Anthony WINGFELD devised a *wing* with the letters F. E. L. D. quarterly about it, "and over the wing a crosse to shew he was a Christian, and on the crosse a red rose to shew that he followed the house of Lancaster."

In like manner the old Surrey family of NEWDIGATE used for their seal an ancient portcullised gate with *nu* at the top, and a capital D in the centre, thus: Nu-D-gate.



Camden tells us of an amorous youth who, in order to express his love for a certain fair damsel named ROSE HILL, painted on the border of his garment lively representations of a *rose*, a *hill*, an *eye*, a *loaf*, and a *well*, "that is, if you will spell it,

ROSE HILL I LOVE WELL!"

Many of the seals of ancient corporations exhibit rebuses on the names of the towns, as

Camelford, a *camel* passing through a *ford*.

Kingston-upon-Hull, a *king* between three lions.

Hertford, a *hart* statant in a *ford*.

Maidenhead, a maiden's head.

Lancaster (antiently Lun-ceastre), a *lion couchant* before a *castle*.

Arundel, a *swallow volant* (Fr. *hirondelle*).

Beverley, a *beaver*, &c.

Lichfield (i. e. the field of corses), the bodies and 'disjecta membra' of dead men, &c.

Oxford, an *ox* in a *ford*.

But the oddest *local* rebus with which I am acquainted is that of Saffron-Walden; three saffron sprigs surrounded by a fortified wall—*Saffron walled-in*!

Rebuses sometimes occur as signs of inns, as at the antique little village of Warbleton, co. Sussex, where the device is a battle-axe or *war-bill* thrust into the bunghole of a *tun* of foaming ale. In the neighbouring hamlet of Runtington, there was a similar rebus, namely, a *runt*, or young cow, and a *tun*. At Crowborough Gate, in the same county, a *crow* upon a *gate* does duty for a sign.

Quaint was the conceit of Robert LANGTON, who gave new windows to Queen's College, Oxford (where he received his education), and placed in each of them the letters TON drawn out to a most extraordinary length, or rather breadth, for *Lang-* (that is *Long-*) *tun*; thus:

T O N

"You may imagine," says Master Camden, "that Francis Cornfield did scratch his elbow when he had sweetly inuented to signifie his name, *Saint Francis*, with his Frierly kowle in a *corne-field*!"\*

\* Remaines, p. 145.



A *hare* upon a *bottle*, for HAREBOTTLE, forms one of the best of these speechless puns. A *mag-pie* upon a *goat*, for PIGOT, is very tolerable. As for a *hare* in a sheaf of *rye*, standing in the *sun*, for HARRISON, it is barely passable ; but a *chest* surmounted with a *star*, for CHESTER, is the *ne plus ultra* of wretched punning.

Lionel Ducket gave as his rebus a *Lion* with an L upon his head, “whereas,” says Camden, “it should have been in his taile.”—“If the Lyon had beene eating a *ducke* it had beene a rare device worth a *duckat* or a *ducke-egge* !”

The rebus of Ralph HOGGE or HOGGE (who in conjunction with Peter Baude, a Frenchman, was the first person who cast iron ordnance in England—at the village of Buxted, in Sussex) was a *hog*. On the front of his residence at that place this device remains carved on stone, with the date 1581 ; from which circumstance the dwelling is called the “Hog-house.” The rebus of one MEDCALF was a *calf* inscribed with the letters M. E. D. Robert de Eglesfield, the munificent founder of Queen’s Coll. Oxon. thought fit to perpetuate his name with what may be called a *practical* rebus. On Christmas-day, the great annual solemnity of the College, when the boar’s head is placed on the hall table with various ceremonies, each of the senior fellows receives from the provost certain needlesful of purple and scarlet silk, with the admonition, ‘Be thrifty :’ the French *aiguilles et fil* (needles and thread) being a play on *Eglesfield*. The donor’s punning was as poor as his liberality was large.

Our old printers were as fond of name-devices in the sixteenth century, as the abbots and priors of the fifteenth had been. Thus William NORTON gave, on the title-pages of the books printed by him, a *sweet-William*

growing out of the bunghole of a *tun*, labelled with the syllable *NOR*; John OXENBRIDGE gave an *ox* with the letter *N* on his back, going over a *bridge*; Hewe GOES, the first printer in the city of York, a great *H* and a *goose*! William MIDDLETON gave a capital *M* in the *middle* of a *tun*; Richard GRAFTON, the *graft* of an apple tree, issuing from a *tun*; and GARRET DEWS, two fellows in a *garret* playing at dice and casting *deux*! John DAY used the figure of a sleeping boy, whom another boy was awakening, as he pointed to the sun, exclaiming, "Arise, for it is *day*:"\* a clumsy invention, scarcely deserving the name of a rebus. Perhaps the most far-fetched device ever used was that of another printer, one Master JUGGE, who "took to express his name a nightingale sitting in a bush with a scrole in her mouth, wherein was written *jugge, jugge, jugge*!"†

Some printers in recent times have imitated their typographical ancestors by the introduction of their rebus on title-pages. The late Mr. TALBOYS, of Oxford, ensigned all his publications with an axe struck into the stem of a tree, and the motto *TAILLE BOIS*! Some of Mr. Pickering's books have an antique device representing a *pike* and a *ring*.

I have reserved for the last, as being one of the best I have seen, the celebrated rebus of ISLIP, Abbot of Westminster, which occurs in several forms in that chapel of the abbey which bears his name. Two copies of this rebus are now before the reader: a descrip-



\* Vide a plate in Ames's *Typogr. Antiq.*, and in Fosbroke's *Encyc. of Antiq.*

Peacham ("Compleat Gentleman,") cited in Johnson's *Dict. voc. REBUS*.

tion of the one forming our tail-piece will suffice for both. It may be read three ways: first, a human EYE and a SLIP of a tree; second, a man sliding from the branches of a tree, and of course exclaiming, "I SLIP!" and third, a hand rending off one of the boughs of the same tree, and again re-echoing, "*I slip!*" Camden, who mentions this quaint device, gives a *fourth* reading of it, namely, the letter **I** placed beside the slip, thus again producing the name—I SLIP. Reader, our *Lettuce* is exhausted!





## A CHAPTER OF CANTING ARMS.



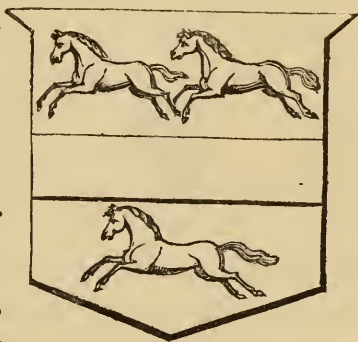
WHEN Rebuses are borne by families as coats of arms, they are called, in the language of heraldry, ARMA CANTANTIA, ARMES PARLANTES, or CANTING ARMS. They seem to be in use in most countries where heraldry is known; thus among the French, DU POIRIER bears 'Or, a *pear tree*, argent; among the Italians, COLONNA bears 'Gules, a *column*, argent; among the Germans, SCHILSTED bears 'Argent, a *sledge*, sable.\* The arms of the united houses of CASTILE and LEON are quarterly, a *castle* and a *lion*, and those of the province of DAUPHINY, a *dolphin*. Louis VII of France (or, as his name was then spelt, *Loys*) used for his signet a *fleur-de-lys*, evidently a play upon his name. This was, according to some authorities, the origin of the royal arms of that kingdom,

English Heraldry delights in these punning devices. The arms of ARUNDEL are six swallows, in allusion to the French word *hirondelle*; and those of CORBET, a *raven*, referring to the French *corbeau*, from which the surname is derived. The arms of TOWERS are 'Azure, a *tower*, Or; those of DE LA CHAMBRE, 'Argent, a

\* Porny's Heraldry, p. 12, note.

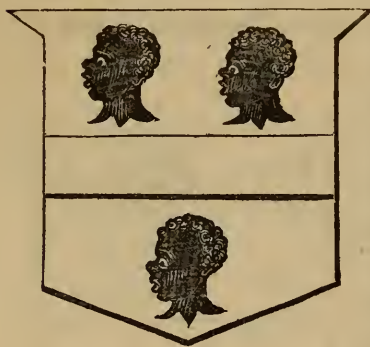


chevron, &c. between three *chamber-pieces*, proper;’\* those of BRAND, Lord Dacre, ‘two *brands* (or swords) in saltire argent;’ those of COOTE, ‘Argent, a chevron between three *coots*, sable;’ those of HERON, ‘Azure, three *herons*, proper;’ those of OXENDEN, ‘Argent, a chevron between three *oxen*, sable;’ those of BURDETT, six birds (martlets); those of HAZELRIGG, three hazel-leaves; those of HARTWELL, a hart; those of BROKE, a brock, or badger; those of MILNE, three windmill sails; those of COLT, ‘Argent, a fesse between three *colts*, current sable;’ those of CONINGSBY, ‘Gules, three *conies*, sejant argent;’ those of STARKEY, a *stork*; those of URSON, a *bear* (in Latin *ursa*); those of LAROCHE, ‘Or, a *rook*, sable;’ those of SHELLEY, ‘Sable, a fesse engrailed between three *whelk shells*, Or;’ those of WOOD, ‘Argent, a *tree*, proper;’ those of DOLFIN, ‘Azure, three *dolphins* naiant, Or;’ those of WHALLEY, ‘Argent, three *whales’* heads



\* *Chamber-pieces*, a species of small cannons. The various kinds of artillery in use amongst our ancestors bore the most singular names. There were cannons and demy-cannons, curtall-cannons and robinets, culverins and demy-culverins, calivers and fowlers, fawcons and fawconets, dragons and basilisks, sakers and petronels, *chambers* and jakers, harquebusses, dags, and pistols! “This,” says a writer of the age of Elizabeth, “is the artillerie which is now in *most estimation*.” How many more kinds there might be I am unable to say, but the above catalogue seems sufficiently numerous. Most of the above terms are calculated to inspire a degree of terror, being derived from the names of monsters, serpents, and birds of prey. Culverin is from the Fr. *couleuvrine*, a snake—and faucons, fauconnets, sakers, &c. were various species of birds used in hawking. Dragons, basilisks, &c., need no explanation.

erased, sable ;' those of MAUNSELL, 'Argent, a chevron between three *maunches* (antient sleeves), sable ;' those of DOBELL, 'Sable, a *doe* passant between three *bells*, argent ;' and those of TREBAREFOOT, ('of that Ilk' in the county of Cornwall,) 'Sable, a chevron, Or, between *three bears' feet* ;' those of HARRISON, a hedgehog, in French *hérisson* ; those of



BLACKMORE, 'Argent, a fesse between three *blackmoors'* heads erased, sable ; those of CROSS contain a cross-crosslet ; those of KNIGHTLEY, a lance ; those of SHAKSPEARE and BREAKSPEARE, a spear ; those of FEATHERSTONEHAUGH, three feathers ; those

of FLETCHER, four arrow-heads ; those of HUNTER, three hunting horns ; those of RAMSDEN, three rams' heads ; and those of MERRYWEATHER, a sun and three martlets, indicative of *merry weather* ! The family of GRANDORGE (grain d'orge—barley grain) bear three ears of barley.

It has been a fashion among modern heraldrists to decry this species of bearings as beneath the dignity of heraldry ; and some have even placed them in the list of what are called Assumptive Arms, that is, such as have been assumed at the caprice of individuals, to gratify personal vanity, without the sanction of the heralds. It is worthy of a parenthetical remark, here, that as heraldry is far more antient than the collegiate body now possessed of the government of matters armorial, and even than the existence of royally-authorized heralds, all the arms borne by our older and more eminent families are *assumptive*. Every chieftain in

baronial times took such emblems as pleased him best, and there was nothing to prevent the adoption of such as conveyed some allusion to his name. Indeed, our oldest heraldic documents, the celebrated Rolls of Arms of the thirteenth and following centuries, abound with *Arma Cantantia* ;\* and all our later heraldry, as well as that of foreign nations, is more or less of this punning character.† Among the arms granted by the illustrious Camden, whose taste will scarcely be called in question, are many which allude to the surnames of the respective grantees.‡ At the same time it is fully admitted that at some periods, and more particularly during the seventeenth century, many absurdities in this respect were perpetrated ; and it might be wished that even *recent* heraldry were exempt from this charge of bad taste. No longer since than 1830, the College of Arms granted to Mr. NEHEMIAH WIMBLE, of Lewes, the following ‘achievement :’ “ARMS, Ermine on a pile gules, a lion of England in chief, and a *wimble* in base ; over all a fesse, chequy, or and azure, thereon two escallops, sable. *Crest*, a demi-lion rampant, chequy, or and azure, supporting an antient shield gules, charged with the chemical character for Mars, or.” The circumstances under which the grant was made were these. Their majesties, King William the Fourth and Queen Adelaide, on paying a visit to their antient borough of Lewes, were loyally received by the townsmen, and entertained at Mr. Wimble’s mansion called the Friars. On this occasion the worthy proprietor was honoured with an introduction to the royal pair, and the grant of arms

\* Vide *Curiosities of Heraldry*, p. 121.

† Vide *Boyer’s Heraldry* in proof.

‡ Ibid. p. 124.

followed. This "modern instance" is full of the *allusiveness* so much objected to by the lovers of simple and non-emblematical heraldry, albeit a knowledge of several local and personal circumstances is necessary to a due perception of some of the allusions. In the first place, the grantee's name was Wimble, which is represented by the cooper's tool so designated; secondly, he lived at Lewes, a fact indicated by the chequered fesse, part of the borough arms; thirdly, as we have seen, the reception of the king and queen took place at his residence; hence the ROYAL LION in chief; fourthly, he was an eminent ironmonger, a circumstance shadowed forth by the "chemical character for Mars,"—or *Iron*, on the "antient shield;" fifthly, Mr. Wimble's house was ordinarily occupied by the judges during the assizes, and hence the *ermine*! There yet remains one feature of the arms unappropriated, namely, the escallop shells. The escallop is a religious emblem, and probably refers to the name of the house, the *Friars*, so called from its having antiently been a monastery of Grey Friars, if, indeed, as a badge of pilgrimage, it does not refer to the eight miles' pilgrimage of their majesties from the Pavilion at Brighton to their antient and loyal town of Lewes! *Risum teneatis, amici?*

But to give some other instances of heraldic rebuses: the family of OAKES bear *acorns*, (very natural that they should!); the BUTLERS, of Ireland, bear *three covered cups*, (very proper again!); the LAMBS, *three lambs*; the ROACHES, *three roaches*; the BACONS, a *boar*; the PINES, a *fir tree* or *pine*; the PARKERS, a *stag's head*; the CALLS, *three trumpets*. Sometimes the *crest* cants when the arms do not; this is





the case in the family of BEEVOR, a *beaver*; ASHBURNHAM, an *ash* tree; BECKFORD, a heron's head holding in his *strong beak* (Bec fort) a fish; FISHER, a *kingfisher*, &c.

Canting arms are common in Scotland as well as in England. The arms of MATTHIAS are three dice (sixes, as the highest throw), having, no doubt, a reference to the election of *St. Matthias* to the apostleship; "and the lot fell upon Matthias." "The arms of LOCKHART are 'A man's *heart*, proper, within a padlock, sable,' in perpetuation, as they tell you, that one of the name accompanied the good Sir James Douglas to Jerusalem, with the heart of King Robert the Bruce."\* The following are also from Scottish heraldry: CRAW, three *crows*; FRASER, three *frases* or cinquefoils; FALCONER, a *falcon*; FORESTER, three *bugle-horns*; HEART, three human *hearts*; HOGG, three *boars'* heads; JUSTICE, a *sword* in pale, supporting a *balance*; PEACOCK, a *peacock*; SKENE, three daggers, called in Scotland *skenes*; and BANNERMAN, 'a *banner* displayed argent; on a canton azure, St. Andrew's cross.'

The LUCYS of Warwickshire bore *lucres* or pike; three, however—not twelve, as might be inferred from Shakspeare, whose Justice Shallow is supposed to be a caricature of a knight of that family. "Merry Wives of Windsor," act i, scene 1:



\* Pegge's Curial. Miscel. p. 229.

*Shallow.* Sir Hugh, persuade me not; I will make a Star-chamber matter of it: if he were twenty Sir John Falstaffs, he shall not abuse Robert Shallow, esquire.

*Slender.* In the county of Gloster, justice of peace and *coram*.

*Shal.* Ay, cousin Slender, and *Custalorum*.

*Slen.* Ay, and *ratolorum* too; and a gentleman born, master parson; who writes himself *armigero*; in any bill, warrant, quittance, or obligation, *armigero*.

*Shal.* Ay that we do; and have done any time these three hundred years.

*Slen.* All his successors, gone before him, have done't; and all his ancestors, that come after him, may: they may give the *dozen white luses* in their coat.

*Shal.* It is an old coat.

*Evans.* The dozen white *louses* do become an *old coat* well; it agrees well, passant: it is a familiar beast to man and signifies—love.

*Shal.* The *luce* is the fresh fish; the salt fish is an old coat.

The arms of Sir WILLIAM SEVENOKE or SENNOCKE



were seven acorns, 3, 3, and

1. This remarkable person was deserted by his parents in infancy, and found either in the hollow of a tree, or in the street, at Sevenoaks, co. Kent, towards the end of the reign of Edw. III. By the charitable assistance of Sir William Rumpstead (the person who found him) and

others, he was brought up, and apprenticed in London, where being admitted to the freedom of the Grocers' Company, he gradually rose in eminence, until at length he became Lord Mayor, which office he served with great honour in the 6th year of Henry V, and received from that monarch the honour of knighthood. Three years afterwards he served in parliament for the

city of London. He was a benefactor to the parish of St. Dunstan in the East, and also to the place whence he received his name, for "calling to minde the goodness of Almightye God, and the favour of the Townesmen extended towards him, he determined to make an everlasting monument of his thankfull minde for the same. And therefore of his owne charge builded both an Hospitall for reliefe of the poor, and a free Schoole for the education of youthe within this towne, &c."\* He made his will in 1432, and was buried in the Church of St. Martin, Ludgate.

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#### NOTE TO PAGE 114.

ARMS OF ASSUMPTION. It is rather surprising that some heraldrists, official and otherwise, should question the validity of all those armorial bearings which are not authenticated by a grant of the College. As I have already asserted, comparatively few families of antient gentry have any record of the exact date of their arms, or of their having been conferred in a legal manner. The College of Arms is of no older date than the reign of Richard the Third. Prior to that time coat-armour was sometimes the immediate gift of royalty, but oftener conferred by commanders on such as had earned it by valour on the battle-field; or given by noblemen to those who held estates under them and followed their banners. Camden says, "Whereas the

\* Lambarde's *Perambulation of Kent*, p. 520. Quibbling old Fuller says, "he gave Seven Acorns for his armes, which, if they grow as fast in the *Field of Heraldry* as in the *common field*, may be presumed to be *oaks* at this day."—*Worthies*, vol. i, p. 509.

earles of Chester bare *garbes* or wheat-sheafes, many gentlemen of that countrey tooke wheat-sheafes. Whereas the old earles of Warwicke bare chequy, or and azure, a cheueron ermin, many thereabout tooke ermine and chequie. In Leicestershire and the countrey confining, diuers bare cinquefoyles, for that the antient earles of Leicester bare geules, a cinquefoyle, ermine. In Cumberland and thereabouts, where the old barons of Kendall bare argent two barres geules, and a lyon passant or in a canton of the second, many gentlemen thereabout tooke the same in different colours and charges in the canton." A variety of other instances of this practice may be found in the 'Curiosities of Heraldry,' and in many historical, topographical, and genealogical publications. A more copious collection of such borrowed arms than has yet been made, would form materials for a curious and interesting chapter in the history of armory.\*

\* It would seem that the practice of borrowing the arms of other families is not yet extinct, for a certain plebeian high-sheriff of Sussex, not many years since, on being asked by his coach-maker what arms he would have painted on his new carriage, replied, "Oh, I don't care—suppose we have *Lord Chichester's*—I think they're as pretty as any!!" Nor is it altogether confined to our eastern hemisphere, if the following anecdote may be relied on. An English gentleman at New York sent his carriage to a certain coach-maker for repairs, with an intimation that he would call in a few days to view the progress of the work. Judge of his surprise, on entering the coach-maker's workshop, to find some half dozen other carriages besides his own bedizened with his family arms. When he demanded of the coach-maker an explanation of this "heraldic anomaly," that worthy replied with genuine simplicity: "Why you see, Mister, several of my customers who have been in to look at their carriages have ordered me to copy the arms from yours; for let me tell you," he added, in a patronizing manner, "it's a *pattern* that's very much liked!"





## OF PUNNING FAMILY MOTTOES.



OME families, not content with painting their surnames upon their escutcheons, in the shape of 'canting' arms, have, moreover, re-echoed them in their mottoes.

The motto of the family of *Piereponte* (Duke of Kingston) is *PIE REPONE TE*, a capital *hit*, as the three words make the name almost exactly. *FORTE-Scutum Salus Ducum*, the motto of the *Fortescues*, has already been mentioned. The family of *ONslow* use *Festina lente*, "On slow!" or "Hasten slowly." The windows at Chiddingly Place, co. Sussex, the seat of the *Jefferays*, formerly contained their arms and motto,

**"Je-ffray ce que diray."**

*I shall do what I say!*

Sir John Jefferay, lord chief baron (temp. Eliz.) who was of this family, used the shorter motto,

**"Que fra 'je fra.'"**

The *CAVENDISHES* use *Cavendo tutus*, "Safety in caution;" the *FANES*, *Ne vile fano*, "Bring nothing base to the fane, or temple;" the *MAYNARDS*, *MA-nus justa NARDus*, "A just hand is a precious ointment;" the *COURTHOPES*, *Court hope*; the *FAIRFAXES*, *Fare, fac*, "Speak, do;" the *VERNONS*, *Ver non semper viret*,

“The spring does not always flourish,” or “Vernon always flourishes;” the FITTONS, “*Fight on* quoth Fitton;” the SMITHS, “*Smite* quoth Smith;” and the MANNS, *Homo sum*, “I am a man!” the NEVILLES, *NE VILE velis*, “Incline to nothing base;” the AGARDES, *Dieu me GARDE*, “God defend me;” and the LOCKHARTS, *CORDA SERATA pando*, “I lay open the locked hearts.” The antient family of Morrice, of Betshanger, co. Kent, who trace their genealogy to Brut, the first king of Britain, (!) have for their motto “*Antiqui MORES.*” Many of the Scottish mottoes originated in the slug-horn, slogan, or war-cry of the clan of which the bearer was chief. Thus the motto of SETON, Earl of Wintoun, is *Set-on!* being at once, an exhortation to the retainers to set upon the enemy, and a play upon the name.

The motto of John WELLS, last abbot of Croyland, engraved upon his chair, which is still extant, is,

“*Benedicite JONCES Domine.*”\*

*Bless the WELLS O Lord!*

From a more copious list of punning mottoes which I have elsewhere given,† I select a few.

*Addere Le-gi Justitiam Decus.* ’Tis a support to the Law to add Justice to it. ADDERLEY.

*Bonne et belle assez.* Good and handsome enough. BELLASIZE.

*Cave!* Beware! CAVE.

*Quod dixi, dixi.* What I’ve said I have said. DIXIE.

*Est hic.* Here he is! ESTWICK.

*Graves disce mores.* Learn serious manners.

GRAVES.

\* There is an engraving of this chair in Gough’s Croyland.

† *Curios. of Herald.*, p. 156.

*Pure foy* ma joye. Sincerity is my delight.

PUREFOY.

*Mos le-gem* Regis. Agreeable to the King's Law.

MOSLEY.

*Vincenti* dabitur. It shall be given to the conqueror.

VINCENT.

Do *all good*.

ALGOOD.

*Pagit* Deo. He covenants with God.

PAGET.

*Vigila* et ora. Watch and pray.

WAKE.

*Colens* Deum et Regem. Reverencing God and the  
King.

COLLINS.





## OF ANAGRAMS.

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“I believe now, there is some secret power and virtue in names.”

BURTON'S *Anatomy of Melancholy*.

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My motto is, “What’s in a Name?” a few words on ANAGRAMS cannot be out of place here. Few people are aware of what their names really include; for they unquestionably contain a deal of mysterious wisdom did we but know how to extract it. As for myself, I am one of those “dull wyttes” who might as well hunt for a statue of Apollo in a block of marble, as try to extract what Camden calls the ‘quintessence’ of names. I must therefore rest content to be a *compiler*, that is to say, literally, a *robber*\* of the produce of more fertile geniuses.

“Anagrammatisme or metagrammatisme,” (forgive me ‘shade of the venerable Camden,’ if I, for the hundredth time, again *rob* you,) “is a dissolution of a name truly written into his Letters, as his Elements, and a new connexion of it by artificiall transposition, without addition, subtraction, or change of any letter

\* Compile, v. a. to *rob*, pillage, plunder, filch, steal! How truly honourable, therefore, is the office of a compiler.



into different words, making some *perfect sense* applicable to the person named.”\*

“Some of the sower sort will say it (namely the searching out of anagrams) is nothing but a troublous ioy, and because they cannot attaine to it will condemne it, least by commending it, they should discommend themselues. Others more milde, will grant it to bee a dainty deuise and disport of wit not without pleasure, if it be not wrested out of the name to the reproach of the person. And such will not deny but that as good names may bee ominous, so also good Anagrammes, with a delightfull comfort and pleasant motion in honest minds, in no point yeelding to any vaine pleasures of the body. They will also afford it some commendations in respect of the difficulty; (*Difficilia quæ pulchra*;) as also that it is the whetstone of patience to them that shall practise it. For some haue beene seene to bite their pen, scratch their head, bend their browes, bite their lips, beate the boord, teare their paper, when they were faire for somewhat, and caught nothing therein.”

The invention of anagrams is ascribed to a Greek poet called Lycophron, who flourished about B.C. 380, in the time of Ptolemy Philadelphus, king of Egypt, whose name he proved to be full of sweetness,

ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΣ.

Ἀπὸ μέλιτος—*Made of honey!*

Nor was he less successful upon that of Arsinoe, Ptolemy's wife, which he thus read:

ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗ.

Ἑρας Ἴον—*Juno's violet!*

\* Remaines, p. 147.

The practice of making anagrams was first used in modern times in France, upon the revival of learning in that country under Francis the First. Not long after, the following transpositions were made of the name of the unfortunate Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland.

MARIA STUARTA.  
**Veritas Armata.**  
*Armed Truth.*

This, however, does not come up to Camden's rule of "making a perfect sense applyable to the person named." The next is much better:

**Maria Stewarda, Scotorum Regina.**

TRUSA VI REGNIS, MORTE AMARA CADDO.

*Thrust by force from my kingdoms, I fall by a bitter death!*

It is to the French also that we are indebted for the beautiful anagram on the name of Christ which has an allusion to the passage in Isaiah LVIII, "He is brought as a sheep to the slaughter."

ΙΗΣΟΥΣ.

Σὺ ἡ οἷς—*Thou art that sheep.*

Anagrams, on their introduction into this country, were often employed for the purposes of flattery. Camden cites several, made in his own times, on the names of James the First and his family, which do not, according to my view of that race, conform to his own rule. I shall pass by these and many others my author has given, and come at once to notice a few of the best I have met with upon English names. Among these is that upon

“DOROTHY, VICOUNTESSE LISLE.

*Christ joins true love's knot.*

Where hands and hearts in sacred linke of love  
Are joyn'd in Christ, that match doth happy prove.”

Of the name of SIR FRANCIS BACON, LORD KEEPER, one Mr. Tash, an ‘especial man in this faculty,’ made—

*Is born and elect for a ric[h] speaker.*

Of that of JOHANNES WILLIAMS, the Welsh divine and statesman, well known as the strenuous opponent of Laud, Mr. Hugh Holland made a quadruple anagram, which, however, is far from exact :

1. IO SIS LUMEN IN AULA.

*O, mayst thou be a light in the palace !*

2. My wall is on high.

3. My wall high Sion.

And (in reference to his love for the country that gave him birth)

4. WALLIS ES IN ANIMO.

*O Wales how I love thee !*

Honest JOHN BUNYAN found out the following for his anagram, which, albeit somewhat defective and rough, is highly characteristic of the man :

*John Bunyan.*

NU HONY IN A B !

The anagram on Monk, afterwards Duke of Albemarle, on the restoration of Charles II, included an important date in our history :

GEORGIUS MONKE, DUX DE ALBEMARLE.  
*Ego Regem reduxi, Anº. Sa. MDCLVV.\**  
 I brought back the King in the year 1660.

Anagram-making seems to have been the favourite amusement of wits and scholars in the seventeenth century, and every name of note was found to contain what would least be expected from it. Those indeed were the days for seeking 'what's in a name.' By a slight transposition a *Wit* was found in *WIAT*, *Renoun* in *VERNON*, and *Lawrel* in *WALLER*. *RANDLE HOLMES*, the heraldic writer, was complimented with

LO, MEN'S HERALD !

My 'speciall good friend,' 'Henry Peacham, M<sup>r</sup>. of Arts,' the Chesterfield of that period, in his 'Compleat Gentleman,' gives the following advice : " In your discourse be free and affable, giving entertainment in a sweet and liberall manner, and with a cheerful courtesy, seasoning your talk at the table, among grave and serious discourses, with conceits of wit and pleasant invention, as ingenious epigrams, emblems, Anagrams, merry tales, and witty questions and answers." He then proceeds to give 'a tast of some of his (own) Anagrams, such as they are,' one or two of which I shall copy.

"Being requested by a noble and religious lady, who was sister to the old lord De la Ware, to try what her name would afford, it gave me this :

JANE WEST.  
*En tua, Jesu."*

\* D'Israeli, *Curiosities of Literature*, vol. iii, p. 209.



“ Upon a sweet and modest young gentlewoman,  
Mistris

MARIA MEUTAS.  
*Tu à me amaris.”*

“ Of a virtuous and fair gentlewoman, at the request  
of my friend who bare her good will :

FRANCIS (*sic*) BARNEY.  
*Bars in fancy.*

And this—

*Theodosia Dixon.*  
ADEO DIXIT HONOS ; *or*  
*O Dea, dixit honos.”*

“ Of my good friend Master Doctor Dowland, in  
regard he had slipt many opportunities of advancing  
his fortunes; and a rare lutenist as any of our nation—  
beside one of our greatest masters of musick for com-  
posing : I gave him an emblem with this :

JOHANNES DOULANDUS.  
*Annos ludendi hausì.”*

Thus much from H. Peacham, who must be con-  
fessed to be a ‘M<sup>r</sup>.’ of *this* art quite unimpeachable.

Few anagrams have been more happy than that on  
Lord Nelson, made by the Rev. William Holden,  
rector of Chatteris :—

HORATIO NELSON.  
*Honor est à Nilo.*  
My honour is from the Nile.

It would be an easy matter to extend this gossip  
over many pages, but I must refer the reader who  
wishes for more of it to the teeming chapters of Camden

and D'Israeli. There is, however, an anecdote connected with anagrammatizing which although '*decies repetita, placebit.*'

"LADY ELEANOR DAVIES, the wife of the celebrated Sir John Davies, the poet, was a very extraordinary character. She was the Cassandra of her age, and several of her predictions warranted her to conceive she was a prophetess. As her prophecies in the troubled times of Charles I were usually against the government, she was at length brought by them into the Court of High Commission. The prophetess was not a little mad, and fancied the spirit of Daniel was in her, from an anagram she had formed of her name,

ELEANOR DAVIES.  
*Reveal O Daniel !*

The anagram had too much by an L and too little by an s ; yet *Daniel* and *reveal* were in it, and this was sufficient to satisfy her inspirations. The court attempted to dispossess the spirit from the lady, while the bishops were in vain reasoning the point with her out of the Scriptures, to no purpose, she poisoning text against text : one of the Deans of Arches, says Heylin, 'shot her thorough and thorough with an arrow borrowed from her own quiver : ' he took a pen, and at last hit upon this excellent anagram :

DAME ELEANOR DAVIES.  
*Never so mad a Ladie !*

"The happy fancy put the solemn court into laughter, and Cassandra into the utmost dejection of spirit. Foiled by her own weapons, her spirit suddenly forsook her ; and either she never afterwards ventured on prophesying, or the anagram perpetually reminded

her hearers of her state—and we hear no more of this prophetess.”\*

Drummond of Hawthornden passed a severe sentence on this species of wit, when he said, “Except eteostiques, I think the Anagram the most idle study in the world of learning. Their maker must be *homo miserrimae patientiae*, and when he is done what is it but *magno conatu nugas magnas agere!* you may of the same name make both good and evil.” Happy therefore, in the poet’s estimation was that countryman of his, whose mistress’s name being *Anna Grame*, contained a ready-made and most unexceptionable Anagram!

A few more “last words.” A friend of mine has favoured me with two specimens of his own construction, which have so much of the spirit of true metagrammatism in them, that I am sure I shall be pardoned the introduction of them here.

After the battle of Navarino, Admiral Sir Edward Codrington having made some reflections discreditable to the reputation of Capt. R. Dickenson in that affair, Capt. Dickenson demanded a court-martial, the result of which was, not only his honourable acquittal, but the most complimentary testimony of the court to his high professional merit. This circumstance gave rise to the anagram below, on the name of

SIR EDWARD CODRINGTON.

*Rd. Dic’enson got reward.*

When Mr. George Thompson, the eloquent anti-slavery advocate, was solicited, some years since, to go into Parliament, with a view to his more efficiently

\* *Curiosities of Literature*, vol. iii, pp. 212-13.

serving the cause of negro emancipation, the question being submitted to the consideration of his friends, one of them found the following answer in the letters of his name :

GEORGE THOMPSON.

*O go—the Negro's M.P.!*

Perhaps the oddest mode of expressing a name ever seen was that made use of by one of the family of Noel :

“ ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ.”—No-‘L.’





## REMARKS ON INN SIGNS.

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“ ————— vestigia pressit,  
Observans quæ Signa ferant !”

ÆN. vi, 197.

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FROM the eleventh chapter of my Essay it will be seen how fertile a source of English Surnames the Signs of inn-keepers and other traders have been. Some years since I began to prepare for the press a separate treatise on this subject ; but having been hitherto prevented from carrying my design into execution, it has occurred to me that a short dissertation, showing its connexion with Heraldry and Surnames, might not be unacceptable to the readers of these volumes.

I have already said\* that in former times signs were not exclusively limited to inns. Every shop-keeper, or nearly so, had his sign, emblematical, in most instances, of the wares to be disposed of. In this place, however, it is my intention to confine my remarks to those of taverns and inns. A history of inns, antient and modern, would be a curious contribution to our literature ; though it would be foreign to my present purpose. Without further preface, I shall

\* See Vol. I, p. 199.

proceed to classify the medieval and modern signs of these useful establishments.

There are seven principal classes of signs, each of which is susceptible of subdivisions, viz :

- I. Those of a Religious Origin.
- II. Those derived from Heraldry.
- III. Those referring to Distinguished Personages.
- IV. Those which are emblematical of Inns.
- V. Those referring to particular Trades.
- VI. Those allusive to Sports and Pastimes.
- VII. Miscellaneous.

In the middle ages, inns were comparatively rare. The benevolence and hospitality of the monasteries rendered them to a great extent unnecessary. Travellers of all grades repaired to the abbeys and priories for rest and refreshment, and the largesses of the wealthier sort enabled the monks to furnish gratuitous entertainment and lodging to wayfarers of a humbler degree. The practice of going on pilgrimage to distant celebrated shrines led to the erection of wayside-inns for the use of the devotees. Hence obviously arose our first class—namely, *signs of a Religious character*.

Chief among these is the symbol of our faith—the *Cross*, formerly a much more common sign than at present. When described as the *Golden*, the *Red*, or the *White*, Cross, it probably belongs to those borrowed from armorial insignia. The *Cross-in-Hand* may be as antient as the Crusades. The *Holy Rood*, a representation of Christ upon the cross, with Mary and John standing by, is now almost obsolete as a sign. Before the Reformation, every church had its rood occupying a kind of gallery, called the rood-loft, over the chancel arch. *Rood* and *Roods*, I may observe,

are used as surnames. The *Lamb* is a common sign. It was formerly the *Holy Lamb*, bearing the cross. In the earlier and purer days of Christianity, the sacred passion was represented by a simple cross, or by a cross ensigned by XP (the first two letters of *Χριστός*). To this symbol was added, about the year 400, a white lamb at the foot of the cross. In 706, the lamb was superseded by a figure of the Saviour, standing with extended arms as if in prayer, but it was not until the tenth century that this figure was represented dead and nailed to the transverse beam, as in the modern crucifix.\* The Holy Lamb, however, was still occasionally represented in illuminations and sculpture, and it is yet retained in the armorial bearings of several families.

The *Maiden's Head* may sometimes refer to the Virgin Mary, though it is otherwhile regarded as a representation of one of the eleven thousand virgins of Catholic fable. This sign has also become a surname as *Maidenhead*. The *Salutation* was originally a painting or sculpture of the Annunciation — the appearance of the angel to Mary with the memorable words, *Ave Maria, Dominus tecum*, &c. An inn in London bearing this sign corrupted it in a most ludicrous manner. The original meaning of the expression being forgotten, the sign-board exhibited two gentlemen in tailed coats in the act of salutation by *shaking hands!*

The Saints frequently occur as signs. The *St. George and Dragon* is familiar to all. The *St. Andrew*, the *Baptist's Head*, the *Christopher*, the *St. Dunstan*, the *St. Helena*, are far less frequent. The *Catherine*

\* Vide Maitland's *Church in the Catacombs*, p. 204.

*Wheel*, and the *Gridiron* refer to the martyrdoms of SS. Catherine and Lawrence. The *Blossoms*, a considerable inn in London, was so called from its antient sign, which represented St. Lawrence within a border of blossoms or flowers. The legend of this Saint states that flowers sprang up upon the spot of his martyrdom.

The *Mitre*, the *Cross Keys*, the *Cardinal's Cap* (at Canterbury), the *Friars*, and the *Monk's Head*, indicate the influence of the priestly order in their respective localities.

The *Bishop Blaize* is a popular ale-house sign in the clothing counties. St. Blaize was bishop of Sebaske in Cappadocia, and is said to have visited England, and to have settled at a place in Cornwall, designated after him, St. Blazey. He suffered martyrdom in 289, by beheading, after his flesh had been cruelly lacerated with iron combs; and from this latter incident he was selected as the tutelary saint of the wool-combers.\*

The signs representing scriptural subjects are less common than formerly; among those still retained are *Adam and Eve*, *The Two Spies*,† *Bel and the Dragon*, often corrupted to the Bell and Dragon, and *Simon the Tanner*. Mr. Roby considers the Adam and Eve a vestige of

“Those shows which once profaned the sacred page,  
The barbarous ‘mysteries’ of our infant stage”—

in which the first parents of mankind were *dramatis*

\* Roby.

† The original sign probably represented not the two spies sent to Jericho by Joshua, but the two faithful spies, Joshua and Caleb, bearing the cluster of grapes—to indicate that good wine might be had within.



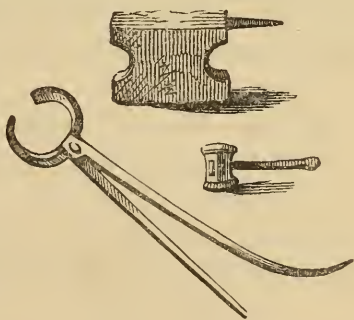
*personæ*. Stowe tells us that the 'Creation of the World' was acted at Clerkenwell, in 1409, by the Company of Parish-clerks, and the representation lasted eight days. So lately as the year 1600, in one of the Chester Whitsun plays or *moralities* (!) Adam and Eve appear on the stage without the slightest apology for vestments of any kind.

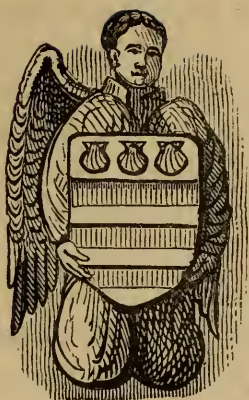
The *Devil and St. Dunstan* was a favourite subject among medieval painters and sculptors. The '**foul fiend Sathanas**' was pourtrayed, however, in all the deformity of claw, tail, and horn, and utterly divested of the assumed form of a 'faire ladie,' under which he presented himself to the Saint upon the memorable occasion of the legend :

"Saynet Dunstane, as y<sup>e</sup> storie goes,  
Once seized y<sup>e</sup> Deville by y<sup>e</sup> nose,  
Hee tugged soe harde and made hym rore  
That he was heerd thre myles and more."

The tongs with which this feat was performed, together with the hammer and anvil which the Christian Vulcan was using at the time of the temptation, are carefully preserved at Mayfield Palace, co. Sussex, where the scene is alleged to have occurred. St. Dunstan's Bridge, in the same vicinity, is pointed out as the spot where the fiend succeeded in making his escape from the saintly grasp.

*Per antithesin*, we may next mention the sign of the *Angel*. In ecclesiastical architecture, angels supporting shields are of very common occurrence, as corbels and





trusses. Vide the annexed cut of one from the ruins of Robertsbridge Abbey, co. Sussex. After the Reformation, religious edifices were sometimes converted into houses of entertainment; and a carved ornament of this kind, upon such an inn, may have suggested the sign. The well-known combat of St. Michael the Archangel and the Dragon, must not be overlooked as an extremely probable origin of it.\*

CLASS II.—The signs borrowed from Heraldry are, perhaps, more numerous than those derived from all other sources collectively.

The full armorials of a family form one of the most usual classes of inn signs, as the Neville Arms, Dorset Arms, Sergisson Arms, Shelley Arms, Pelham

\* Many of these religious signs are still to be found at Paris and in other continental cities. The following are from a list kindly collected for me by John Sikes, Esq. :—

A l'annonciation.

Au Père Eternel.

A l'enfant Jésus. This is over a wine-shop, together with the monogram IHS.

A la tentation.

A la grâce de Dieu.

Au St. Esprit; with a golden dove.

Nothing can justify the use of such sacred names for so profane a purpose. *Diabolical* signs are extremely abundant; e. g.

Au diable à Paris.

Au pauvre diable.

Maison des pauvres diables.

Au fils de diable.

Others are in honour of the saints :—

Au petit St. Thomas.

Au grand St. Michel.

A Ste. Marie.

A la Vierge.

A l'image St. Louis.

A l'image Nôtre Dame,

&c. &c. &c.

Arms. These are abundant in every locality, and point out the local or political influence of the family so honoured. The King's Arms designates a host of inns. The arms of *places* are also common, as the County Arms, City Arms, Town Arms, Cinque-Port Arms; Kent Arms, Sussex Arms, Lewes Arms, &c. &c. The armorials of the trading companies of London are often employed, as the Bricklayers' Arms, Carpenters' Arms, Blacksmiths' Arms; and arms are often 'found' for callings not recognised in this kind of heraldry, as the Fisherman's Arms, Founders' Arms, Marine Arms, Miners' *Royal* Arms, Odd Fellows' Arms, with some others still more absurd, to which I have previously alluded.\* I do not imagine that this class of signs is of any great antiquity, and as it cannot, from its very nature, have given rise to any surnames, I shall pass on to another; namely, signs derived from heraldic CHARGES and FIGURES, which have greatly enlarged our family nomenclature.

These were originally derived from the most conspicuous feature of the arms of noble families, and from royal and other badges, supporters and crests; and may be classified into—

1. Parts of the human figure.
2. Quadrupeds.
3. Birds.
4. Fishes, &c.
5. Vegetable productions.
6. Inanimate objects.

1. *Parts of the Human Figure.*—The *Saracen's Head*, the *Turk's Head*, and the *Blackmoor's Head*

\* Vide Vol. I, p. 202. See also some further remarks upon heraldic Inn Signs in *Curios. of Herald.*, p. 186.

point to the period of the Crusades, when such charges were first introduced into the arms of eminent Christian heroes. The first is still retained in the achievements of the families of Bouchier, Darrell, Shirley, and others; and the third is *allusively* employed in those of the families of Blackmore, Moore, &c. The *Three Legs* occurs at Uxbridge. This is probably the



singular ensign of the Isle of Man, antiently quartered by the Stanleys, Earls of Derby, and sovereigns of the island; and may have been adopted as a sign in compliment to some member of that family. In one instance the entire human figure is given as a sign—the *Black Boy*, which was probably borrowed from the supporters of some noble family. The King's Head, Duke's Head, &c., belong to another class.

## 2. *Quadrupeds.*

LION. Black Lion, Blue Lion, Red Lion, White Lion, Golden Lion, Silver Lion.

HORSE. White Horse, Black Horse, Running Horse ('horse courant'). The White Horse rampant is the arms of Kent, the old Saxon ensign.

BEAR. White Bear, Brown Bear, Black Bear. These colours are all 'proper' to the bear, according to the species. The bear is a common heraldic charge, and on signs he is usually represented muzzled and chained. Why the bear should have become a favourite badge of the warrior's shield, it is somewhat difficult to conjecture, though it must be allowed to be a better emblem of his prowess than some other animals, such as the monkey, the ass, and the toad, which found



their way into the quaint heraldry of early times. The Bear and Ragged Staff, which occurs as an inn sign, is the badge of the Earls of Warwick.

“Old Neville’s crest

The Rampant Bear chained to the Ragged Staff.”

**BOAR.** The wild boar seems to have been an ancient sign: hence the surname *Wildbore*. The White Boar was the badge of King Richard III. The Blue Boar was another Yorkist badge, and thus, as it became associated with royalty, the Blue Boar and Crown was a rather common sign. This serves to explain what might otherwise appear a very absurd combination of objects. On a road-side inn, near Tunbridge Wells, this sign is oddly corrupted to the Blue *Boy* and Crown! The Hog in Armour was probably derived from the rhinoceros.

**DOG.** Talbot, Black Dog, Greyhound, common in heraldry.

**BULL.** Black Bull, Pied Bull, Bull’s Head. An eminent example of this heraldic bearing occurs in the family of Neville.

**ANTELOPE.** This was antiently a royal supporter.

**BUCK.** Stag, Doe, Roebuck, Hart (Surnames), Buck’s Head, White Hart. The last was a badge of the Lancastrian branch of the house of Plantagenet; and it is a curious fact that the sign is still most common in those districts where the “time-honoured” duke and his descendants had the greatest influence.

**FOX.** The ‘Fox and Grapes’ refers to the classical fable. The ‘Cross Foxes’ I take to be merely the singular armorial bearings of the family of Williams (Wynne), which are blazoned thus: “Argent, two foxes, counter-salient in saltier, gules.”



GOAT. Goat's Head. Among the ludicrous associations frequently found in inn signs are the Goat in Boots and the Goat and Compasses. The latter is said to be a corruption of the words "God encompasseth us," which a puritanical innkeeper inscribed upon his house.

RAM. Usually heraldic, with golden horns and hoofs.

UNICORN. The sinister supporter of the royal arms.

ELEPHANT. Elephant and Castle.\*

### 3. *Birds.*

EAGLE. Black Eagle, Golden Eagle, Spread Eagle (eagle displayed). The Eagle and Child is the crest of the Stanleys, Earls of Derby, and originated in a fabulous legend respecting the preservation of an ancestor of the family, in infancy, by an eagle.† The sable eagle with two heads, the imperial ensign of Russia, is corrupted to the *Split Crow*!!

SWAN. White Swan, Black Swan (*rara avis in signis*!) 'The Swan with two Necks': for *necks* read *nicks*. A nick is the mark cut in the mandible of a swan to distinguish its ownership on rivers and other common waters, where large numbers belonging to different persons congregate. In these instances certain 'swan-marks' have been immemorially in use; and, from one of these, the sign, thus curiously corrupted, takes its origin.

COCK. Cock and Pye (magpie), Cock and Bottle.

FALCON. Castle and Falcon: evidently a family crest.

OWL.

\* Similar signs from heraldry occur at Paris, as "Au lion d'argent;" "au renard bleu;" "aux trois agneaux d'or;" "au bras d'or;" "au chien rouge," &c.

† *Curios. of Heraldry*, p. 188.

PEACOCK. At St. Albans are the Old Peacock and the Pea-Hen.

PIGEONS. 'Three Jolly Pigeons:' evidently the arms of some family. Three doves are found in those of Duffeld, Ayer, Thevenge, and Marmaduke.

PHEASANT.

CROW. The 'Royston Crow' in Hertfordshire.

MOOR-HEN. Three Moor Hens, at Hoddesdon, Herts: the arms of some family. The same may be said of the Three Stags. The Three Daws (at Gravesend) should probably be Cornish choughs, a very common bearing.

MAGPIE. The falcon of inn signs has been corrupted to a magpie in the following instances. The falcon and fetterlock, the badge of Edward IV, and hence united to a crown, has become the Magpie and Crown. The device of Anne Boleyn was "a white falcon, crowned, upon the root of a tree, environed with white and red roses :"\* its modern representative is the Magpie and Stump!

The BIRD-IN-HAND may have originated either from the crest of some family—'a hand holding a falcon'—or from the well-known old proverb :

"A *bird in hand* is better far  
Than two that in the bushes are!"

In this latter case the *moral* intended by it may be that the wayfarer should avail himself of the rest and refreshment close at hand rather than run any risk of not meeting with accommodation elsewhere.

CRANE, an heraldic charge.

#### 4. *Fishes.*

DOLPHIN, a common heraldic bearing.

\* Gent. Mag., July 1831, p. 21.

WHALE. What can be the meaning of the *Old Whalebone* at Colchester and elsewhere?

MACKAREL. 'Three Mackarel' at Dover.

To this list of heraldic animals must be added the DRAGON, once a royal supporter, the MERMAID, the FLYING HORSE, the GRIFFIN, and other fabulous monsters, chiefly from the supporters of noble families, and generally of modern date.

### 5. *Vegetable Productions.*

Apple-tree, Pear-tree, Iron Pear-tree, Cherry-tree, Yew-tree, Three Trees, Five Ashes. Sometimes heraldic, but more frequently derived from trees of the particular species now or formerly growing near the inns which bear these signs. The Ash-tree, a little public-house at Ashburnham, co. Sussex, takes its sign from the canting crest of the noble family resident in the vicinity.

ROSE. Rose and Crown, the Tudor badge.

FLEUR DE LIS.

WHEATSHEAF, the '*garb*' of heraldry.

6. Among the *inanimate objects* borrowed from heraldry and employed as signs, are the following:—

CROWN. Crown and Anchor, Crown and Sceptre, Crown and Thistle, Crown and Dolphin, &c.

STAR. Star and Garter.

AXE. The warrior's—not the carpenter's.

CROSS-KEYS, common in church-heraldry. A surname.

FEATHERS, the Prince of Wales's badge. A surname.

HORSE-SHOES. Three Horse-shoes, Four Horse-shoes, &c. (Coats of Arms.)

SUN, SEVEN STARS, MOON, HALF-MOON (the crescent of heraldry), STAR (the mullet).



TABARD, a herald's coat.

Three being the favourite number of repetitions in coats of arms, such signs as the Three Crowns, Three Cups, Three Tuns, &c. may be regarded as having originated in the arms of families formerly resident in the vicinity. The Three Kings are evidently those of Cologne, and should therefore have been reckoned among religious signs. The Three Compasses are from the arms of the Carpenters' Company.

CLASS III. Signs referring to Distinguished Personages are generally of a very uninteresting character, and I shall therefore dismiss them in a few words.

Some relate to sovereignty, as the King's Head, Queen's Head, Pope's Head. These were all complimentary and loyal. There are in London, inns designated in honour of George the Fourth, William the Fourth, Victoria, &c. and even of foreign princes, as the King of Prussia, King of Denmark, Queen of Hungary.

Such signs as the Duke of Wellington, the Lord Nelson, the Lord Holland, and particularly the Marquis of Granby, abound *usque ad nauseam*. Innkeepers frequently express their admiration of favourite statesmen by *hanging them*—to their sign-posts; as the George Canning, the Earl Grey, the Lord John Russell! This, *me judice*, is all in very paltry taste; there is, however, another group of this division which is more to be commended, namely, that which does honour to the illustrious names of literature and olden history, as the King Alfred, Alfred's Head (at Wantage, his birthplace), the Friar Bacon, the Shakspeare Inn, the Butler's Head, with the more apocryphal, Robin Hood, Sir John Falstaff, Guy of Warwick, &c. and the more

general, Druid's Head, Crusader, &c. At Paris we find "à Jeanne d'Arc," and "à la Pucelle d'Orléans."

CLASS IV. Many signs are *emblematical* of Inns, and allusive to drinking. Of the more obvious class it will be sufficient to name the Grapes, the Vine, the Three Tuns, the Puncheon, the Barleymow, the Leather Bottle, the Fountain, and the Punch-bowl, with the more modern Canteen, Free Butt, Malt and Hops, and others even less classical than these. Some others need explanation, particularly the following:—

'*The Devil and the Bag o' Nails.*' This singularly unclassical sign had a very classical origin. At Pimlico, a century since, existed a device appropriate enough for a tavern, namely, 'Pan and the Bacchanals;' but the painting having become almost obliterated by the weather, only faint traces of the Arcadian deity remained, and these were not unnaturally mistaken for the lineaments of Satan; while the votaries of Bacchus became, by a different process (which has certainly something demoniacal about it), a *bag of nails*!

A writer in the Gentleman's Magazine,\* in spite of the above fact, suggests, "that the Bag o' Nails, instead of being a corruption, was a figure of rhetoric; the bag of nails originally represented on a sign being intended, by the erudite landlord, to be read *Bacchanals*; though, as has been the case with more important hieroglyphics, the signification was doomed to perish, while the figure remained. 'Sic,' he wittily adds, 'Sic transit gloria *pundi*!' " Some years ago an iron-monger in Goswell street, in a matter-of-fact spirit, adopted the Bag of Nails as the sign of his establishment.

\* Vol. lxxxviii, i, p. 296.

'*The Devil and Punchbowl*' was probably a Bacchanalian figure with his wine-cup.

'*The Chequers*.' There are some inns known by this sign; but the chequered square painted upon the doorpost is common to many inns bearing a more specific one. The chequer occurs on an inn in the ruins of Pompeii, indicating, as Brand\* thinks, that some game analogous to draughts or chess might be played within. In medieval times *Le Chequer* occurs as a sign.† Fosbroke adds, that it was "the external denotement of an ale-house, even so lately as 1700,"—he might have said till our own times.

A foolish notion regarding this sign has found its way into some respectable publications; namely, that the chequers represent the arms of the antient Earls of Warenne, who it is asserted possessed, in or soon after the time of William Rufus, the exclusive right of granting licences for the sale of beer. It would be very difficult, I think, to produce the charter by which this important right was acquired; besides which, the de Warenne arms were 'chequy, or and azure,' while in the ale-house chequers the prevailing tincture is red.

The '*Red Lattice*' seems to be identical with the chequers. It is repeatedly referred to by our old dramatists. In the '*Miseries of Inforced Marriage*,' 1607, we read—

"'Tis treason to the *red lattice*, enemy to the sign-post;"

and in '*Arden of Faversham*,' 1592—

"His sign pulled down, his *lattice* borne away;"

and again in '*Antonio and Melida*,' 1633—

"As well known by my wit, as an ale-house by a *red lattice*."

\* Popular Antiq., ii, 215; edit. Sir H. Ellis.

† Anglia Sacra, i, 143.

In the 'Christmass Ordinary,' 1682—

"Where Red *Lettice* doth shine,  
'Tis an outward sign  
Good ale is a traffic within."

*Pop. Antiq.*, ii, 217-18.

In the further progress of corruption, lattice and lettice became *lettuce*, and the *Red* and even the *Green* Lettuce still figure as inn signs.

'*The Bush*.'

"Good wine needs no *bush*."—*Old Proverb*.

"I rather will take down my *bush* and *sign*,  
Than live by means of riotous expense."

*Good Newes and Bad*, &c., 1622.

The 'bush,' like the chequers and the lattice, was rather a general denotation of the trader in liquors than a specific sign, which, however, in many instances, it became. In former times, a bush or a besom affixed to *any* article denoted its vendibility. The top-mast of a ship or boat for sale is so decorated to this day, and in some country fairs, horse-dealers and others put a bough upon the heads of the animals they wish to dispose of. With regard to inns, the bush may have a classical allusion to the *ivy-bush*, sacred to Bacchus. Old Braithwaite dedicates his 'Strappado for the Divell' to Bacchus, whom he styles "sole sovereigne of the *ivy-bush*, prime founder of *red lettices*!"\*

In some remote villages we occasionally meet with a birch broom affixed to the top of the May-pole in front of a way-side hostelry, reminding us of a passage in Dekker's 'Wonderful Yeare'—"Spied a bush at the end of a pole, the auncient badge of a country

\* *Pop. Antiq.*, ii, 216.



ale-house." But this relic of antiquity is fast disappearing.

Sometimes the innkeeper indicated his calling by several of the above emblems in combination. In the 'Compleat Vintner,' 1720, we read—

"Without there hangs a noble sign,  
Where golden Grapes in image shine—  
To crown the Bush a little punch-  
gut Bacchus, dangling of a bunch,  
Sits loftily enthroned upon  
What's call'd (in miniature) a tun."

*Pop. Antiq.*, ii, 218.

"The owner of the *Mourning Bush* in Aldersgate was so affected at the decollation of Charles I," says Fosbroke, "that he painted his bush black."

I have in another place alluded to the occasional use of *rebuses* as inn signs. I may here add to those before enumerated, the *Bolt* (or arrow) *and Ton*, the device of prior Bolton, and the *Hat and Ton*, that of the Hattons.

A word may be said here on the *absurd combinations* sometimes met with in inn signs.

"I'm amazed at the signs  
As I pass through the town:  
To see the odd mixture  
A Magpye and Crown, (vide p. 147, ante)  
The Whale and the Crow,  
The Razor and Hen,  
The Leg and Sev'n Stars,  
The Bible and Swan,  
The Ax and the Bottle,  
The Ton and the Lute, (rebus of *Luton*?)  
The Eagle and Child, (crest of Stanley,)  
The Shovel and Boot."

*British Apollo*, 1710.

Most if not all of these are referable to heraldry, but some others have a different source. The *Goose and Gridiron*, for instance, is the Swan and Harp, in allusion to the fabulous musical powers of that bird; the *Pig and Pepperbox* is a similar *travestie* of the Elephant and Castle; the *Cat and Fiddle* seems to have no more recondite an origin than the well-known nursery-rhyme; and the *Cat and Bagpipes* appears to be another reading of the hare and bagpipe of the old illuminators.

Of such combinations as the Three Nuns and a Hare, the Cow and Hare, the Hand and Star, the Leg and Star, the Ship and Last, some are probably heraldic, and others originated, according to the *Spectator*, in the apprentice uniting, when he set up in trade, the sign of his master to the one of his own adoption.\*

CLASS V. Signs, allusive to particular Trades, have often been transferred to inns, particularly when the proprietors have previously been shopkeepers. E. g :—

The *Alphabet* marked a stationer.

The *Artichoke*, a gardener.

The *Bee-hive* was a general symbol of industry.

The *Bible and Crown* denoted a loyal bookseller.

The *Blue Last*, a shoemaker.

The *Cannon, Gun, &c.* a gun-founder.

\* "It is usual for a young tradesman at his first setting up, to add to his own sign that of the master whom he served; as the husband after marriage gives a place to his mistress's arms in his own coat. This I take to have given rise to many of those absurdities which are committed over our heads. . . . I would establish certain rules for the determining how far one tradesman may *give* the sign of another, and in what cases he may be allowed to *quarter* it with his own!"—*Spectator*, vol. i, No. 28.

The *Cow-leech* (a provincial name), a farrier; and  
The *Golden Fleece*, a draper.

The *Green Man*. M. Paris says, "foresters were noted for setting up ale-houses; hence the Green Man,"\* the dress of a forester being of that colour. At Ringmer, co. Sussex, is an inn with this sign; the original landlord had been the *keeper* of Broyle Park, in the vicinity. What is the meaning of *Still* in the 'Green Man and Still?' This latter sign gave rise to the following witticism: Mr. Jekyll meeting his friend Lord Erskine, said, "May I congratulate you, my lord, on having the green ribbon?" "Yes," replied his lordship, "yet I am the same man still." "Then," rejoined the humorous barrister, "it will be a most evident *sign* of your deserts, and therefore you must be the Green Man and Still!"

The *Harrow, Plough, &c.* marked a husbandman.

The *Hand and Shears*, a tailor.

The *Old Ship, Old Sheer Hulk, Ship and Shovel, Schooner, Cutter*; a sailor. In these and some other cases the signs seem to have been devised with a view to attract a particular class of customers.†

The *Sugar Loaf*, a grocer.

The *Woolpack*, a wool-stapler.

The *Windmill*, a miller.

It is unnecessary to multiply instances.

CLASS VI. Inn Signs referring to Sports and Pastimes are of frequent occurrence.

The *Anglers*, for the accommodation of the disciples of Izaak Walton.

*Bugle Horn*, in hunting districts.

\* Fosb. Encyc., p. 502.

† Vide Vol. I, p. 201.

*Bat and Ball*, for cricketers. The landlord originally a distinguished 'batter' or 'bowler.'

*Bells*. Three, Five, Six, Eight, Bells, &c. The peculiarly English pastime of ringing has originated this class of signs. The *number* generally corresponds with that of the peal of some neighbouring church. The *Blue Bell* is probably heraldic.

*Dog and Duck*—in fen countries where the pastime of duck-shooting prevails.

*Dog and Bear*. This sign refers to a cruel but now obsolete sport which was much practised in the middle ages.

*Huntsman*, in hunting districts } often kept by the  
*Hare and Hounds*, } local huntsman.

*Kentish Cricketers*. Kent has long been famous for this amusement.

*Wrestlers*, in Cornwall and elsewhere.

#### CLASS VII. *Miscellaneous*.

Sometimes houses of entertainment bear the names of neighbouring objects, as the Castle, the Bridge, the Pier, the Gate, the Yew Tree, Kit's Coty House (near Rochester), close to the singular *cromlech* so called. Chalk Farm, at the place so called, near London, &c.

Sometimes local and historical events are referred to, as the Conqueror and South Saxon at Hastings, the Royal Oak, &c.

Some signs are national, as the Albion, the Britannia, the Old England, the Union; others sentimental, as the Fortune of War, the Hope, the Perseverance, the Providence, the Good Intent. These are all modern. Many such signs occur at Paris, as "à la Fidélité," "à l'Activité," "à la Vérité," "à l'Espérance," &c.



Low humour has given rise to many, as the Good Woman, i. e. a headless woman ; the Labour in Vain, a man attempting to wash a Blackmoor white—the Paris version of it is, “ au temps perdu ;” and the Three Loggerheads, *two* only being painted on the sign, while the spectator completes the trio !

I have incidentally mentioned several singular and ludicrous corruptions in inn signs ; two others of familiar name deserve especial notice, viz. the Bull and Mouth, and the Bell Savage. The former is exhibited as a bull standing by the side of a monstrous human mouth, whereas the object primarily intended was the *mouth* or *harbour* of *Boulogne*, a compliment, as Mr. Roby supposes, to Henry VIII, who took that port in 1544.\*

The *Bell Savage* was represented as a large church bell and a savage man. According to the Spectator, ‘ la belle sauvage ’ was the heroine of an antient French romance, which told the story of a *beautiful lady* found in a forest in a wild or savage state † ; but Mr. Roby asserts that the inn and its court-yard were denominated from one ‘ Isabella Savage,’ a lady who once possessed these premises and conveyed them to the Cutlers’ Company. This statement is as far from the truth as the other, without the merit of being so *picturesque*, since the real donor of the property was a Mrs. Craithorne, whose portrait is still preserved at Cutlers’ Hall, in Cloak lane.‡

\* Gent. Mag., April 1818.

† Vol. i, No. 28.

‡ Tavern Anecdotes, p. 70.



## OBSERVATIONS ON CHRISTIAN NAMES.

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N jotting down a few notes on *personal* or *individual* names, it is not my intention to wander far into the mazes of etymology. A host of writers have already employed their pens upon this subject, and perhaps few topics could be named upon which an equal amount of false reasoning has been employed. It is a field in which ingenuity may revel *ad libitum*, but one which yields little solid or satisfactory fruit. The origin of Surnames, belonging as it does to comparatively recent periods of the world's history, is of easy ascertainment as contrasted with that of our personal nomenclature which belongs in general to remote ages, to rude states of social existence, and to a great variety of languages, whose beginnings are themselves shrouded in mystery. To support a favourite theory, the most absurd and far-fetched etymons have often been sought out, and, according to the bias of each several investigator, the Oriental, the Classical, or the Northern languages have respectively been made the chief sources of all existing appellations of this class. One writer insists upon a particular name being from the Hebrew; another asserts that it is archaic Greek; while a third

is quite confident that it is Celtic or Teutonic ; and it has even been attempted to prove, from the names of the earliest patriarchs of mankind, that the primeval language of our race was Hebrew, or German, or Welsh ! It will therefore be obvious to the most uninitiated in these matters, that anything like a general view of Christian names, like that which I have attempted in these volumes to give of family names, would abound with *vexatæ quæstiones* foreign both to the scope of my abilities and to the design and purport of my undertaking.

Christian names are so called from their having originally been given to converts at baptism as substitutes for their former Pagan appellatives, many of which were borrowed from the names of their gods, and therefore rejected as profane. After the general introduction of Christianity, the epithet was still retained, because the imposition of names was ever connected with the earliest of its sacred rites. It is, nevertheless, most incorrect ; since the majority of the personal names of modern times are borrowed from sources unconnected with Christianity. With what propriety can we call Hercules and Diana, Augustus and Julia, or even Henry and Caroline, *Christian* names ?

Until about the commencement of the seventeenth century, no material change in the designations of Englishmen had occurred since the days of the earlier Edwards, when surnames were generally adopted. John de la Barre, it is true, had become plain John Barr, and Roger atte Hylle had softened to Roger Hill, but still the principle of a single Christian name and a single surname had been maintained throughout. About the period alluded to, the innovation of a second

personal name occurs, though but very rarely. The practice was imported from the Continent, where it seems to have originated among the literati in imitation of the *tria nomina* of antiquity. The accession of the many-named house of Brunswick may be said to have rendered it somewhat fashionable ; and during the last century it has become every year more common. Should the fashion continue, it is probable that at the close of the nineteenth century it will be as difficult to find a *binominated* person in this country, as it is in France at the present day.

Another innovation belongs to the seventeenth century ; I mean the use of some family name as a baptismal appellation, as Gouldsmith Hodgson, Boscawen Lower, Cloudesley Shovel. This practice as well as the other is, I think, highly to be commended, as serving to identify the individual with the designation. The genealogist will at once see its utility ; and I would again suggest to parents the desirableness of inserting the maternal family name between the *proper* name of baptism and the surname, as James Morton Wilson, Henry Smith Bradley. I would indeed go further, and add the maiden family name of the wife to the surname of the husband ; thus, if a Charles Harrison married a Mary Bradshawe, they should thereupon write themselves respectively Charles Bradshawe-Harrison and Mary Bradshawe-Harrison. If Vanity unites in the same escutcheon the arms of the wife with those of her lord, ought not Affection in like manner to blend their names ? This usage is voluntarily followed at Geneva and in many provinces of France ; and it serves to distinguish the bachelor from the married man.

In some districts, where a family name was originally



applied at the font instead of the usual James, Peter, or John, that family name has come to be regarded as a regular Christian name. For example : about Lewes, *Trayton* is fully as common as Samuel, Nicholas, Alfred, or any name occupying the second rank in point of frequency, and only less usual than Henry, William, and John. In the sixteenth century a family of this name, from Cheshire, settled at Lewes, and continued to reside there for several successive generations, during the latter part of which period they became so popular that a host of children received the baptismal name of Trayton in compliment to them. The spirit of imitation succeeded ; and there are at the present day scores of Traytons, who have neither any idea of the origin of their name, nor any doubt of its being as *orthodox* as the very common appellatives above alluded to.

There are some singular superstitions regarding the imposition of baptismal names. The peasantry of Sussex believe that if a child receive a name previously given to a deceased brother or sister, it will also die at an early age. It is deemed lucky to bear a Christian name with the same initial as that of the surname, as Reuben Russell, Samuel Smith, Peter Pierpoint. In some parts of Ireland it is a commonly received notion, that by giving a child the name of one of its parents, the life of that parent is abridged ! In Esthonia many parents give their children the names of Adam and Eve, thinking thereby to ensure for them a long life. In Catholic countries the imposition of a saint's name is supposed to bespeak his or her patronage for the namesake.

We have seen, in Chapter XIII, that the Christian name, once imposed, cannot be altered at the option of

the bearer, as the surname may ; at least not without the sanction of episcopal authority. Towards the close of the last century, Sir William Bridges, of Goodneston, Bart., exchanged the name of William for that of Brooke, by license from the Archbishop of Canterbury ;\* but this is almost a solitary instance in modern times, as the occasion for it rarely arises. Before the Reformation, the unauthorized change of a Christian name was a grave offence. It is recorded in the consistorial acts of the Bishop of Rochester, that on Oct. 15, 1515, one Agnes Sharpe appeared and confessed that she had “ of her own motion and consent, voluntarily changed, at confirmation, the name of her infant son to Edward, who was when baptized named Henry, for which she submitted to penance.” The penance enjoined was to make a pilgrimage to the famous Rood of Grace, at the neighbouring abbey of Boxley, and to carry in procession, on five Lord’s days, a lighted taper which she was to offer to the image of the Blessed Virgin.†

Christian names, as well as Surnames, are often exposed to most ludicrous corruptions. A good story, in point, is told by ‘the Doctor.’ “A gentleman, called Anketil Gray, had occasion for the certificate of his baptism: it was known at what church he had been baptized, but on searching the register there, no such name could be found; some mistake was presumed, therefore, not in the entry, but in the recollection of the parties, and many other registers were examined without success. At length the first register was again referred to, and then upon a closer inves-

\* This is contradicted in Courthope’s Debrett, 1836, where the archbishop’s power to change a name is denied.

† Betham’s Baronetage, vol. iii, p. 196.

tigation, they found him entered as *Miss Ann Kettle Grey !\**

The imposition of baptismal names has frequently been influenced by some whim of the parents. At Charlton, co. Kent, three female children, produced at one birth, received the names of Faith, Hope, and Charity. A peasant, residing in a village on the South Downs, in Sussex, once presented an infant at the font, and desired the officiating minister to give him the name of "Acts." The clergyman, puzzled at the suggestion of so strange a name, inquired how it was spelt, and whence it had been selected. The honest man replied that it was a Scripture name, and as his four former children bore the names of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, he should like to have this one christened "Acts!" The intention was, however, overruled, and a more regular appellation conferred. Unfortunately for the poor child, the circumstance was not forgotten in his after life; and as he had two younger brothers, named respectively Richard and Thomas, the roguish urchins of the village used to annoy the whole family by the following rigmarole :

"Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John,  
Acts o'Postles, Dick, and Tom!"

While we possess so great a variety of excellent Christian names, it is astonishing that so few should be in ordinary use. The common English dictionaries contain lists of about 250 male and 130 female names; but out of these not more than about twenty or thirty for each sex can be called at all usual. Nearly a

\* Report on Parochial Registration.

moiety of males may be said to be either Johns, or Williams, or Jameses, or Georges, or Henriess, or Thomases, or Richards. If, in addition to these, we enumerate the Fredericks, the Edwards, the Josephs, the Charleses, the Matthews, the Nicholases, the Peters, the Philips, the Stephens, the Roberts, the Alfreds, and the Walters, nine-tenths of our "mankind" will be found upon the muster-roll, and only a tithe will remain to answer to the less usual, but often much more beautiful and euphonious, names.

If we examine our female names we arrive at a very similar result. Mary, Anne, Elizabeth, Eliza, Sarah, and Jane, are universal, while in the second rank Catherine, Emma, Frances (or Fanny), Hannah, Harriet, Ellen, Lucy, Maria, Martha, Sophia, and two or three others, bear sway.

The dread of singularity seems to be the principal motive for thus restricting our personal nomenclature. But why should we shrink from the use of such noble appellations as Alexander, Alban, Ambrose, Arthur, Bernard, Christopher, Clement, Edgar, Egbert, Ethelbert, Gilbert, Gregory, Godfrey, Harold, Lawrence, Leonard, Michael, Marmaduke, Oliver, Paul, Ralph, Reginald, Roger, Roland, Sylvester, Theobald, Urban, Valentine, and Vincent, which have one or all of the attributes of euphony, of a good etymology, and of interesting historical associations? And why, again, should we deny to the gentler sex the graceful designations of Agnes, Agatha, Arabella, Beatrix, Bertha, Blanche, Cecilia, Dorothy, Edith, Gertrude, Gunhilda, Gundrada, Isabel, Julia, Leonora, Maud, Mildred, Philippa, Ursula, and Winefride?

The euphony of our nomenclature would be greatly improved by the judicious adaptation of the Christian



name to the Surname. When the latter is a monosyllable, the former should be long. Nothing can reconcile the tasteful ear to such curt names as Job Guy, Luke Pont, Mark Sharpe, Ann Foote, Jane Fox; while Cecilia Guy, Arabella Pont, and Christopher Sharpe, are far from despicable. For the most part Old Testament names should be avoided as defective in euphony, and inharmonious with English family names. Isaac Newton and Samuel Johnson, divested of their associations with *the men*, would sound as harshly as Ezekiel Briggs or Daniel Perkins. The female names are still less musical; nothing could reconcile us to Ruth Brett, or Rebecca Dickenson, or Dinah Winterbotham. To prove that the unpleasant effect produced by such combinations does not result from the surnames selected, let us substitute appellations which are unexceptionable, and the result will be even worse—for example: Ruth Pelham! Rebecca Howard!! Dinah Neville!!! Care should also be taken to avoid the combination of a classical Christian name with a surname of decidedly Teutonic origin, Agatha Newton, does not sound so well as Agatha Cecil, nor Augustus Hartley so well as Augustus Romaine. Here again the cacophony does not result from the surname, for, to my ear at least, Bertha Newton and Roger Hartley are better names than the other two.

Some parents exercise their ingenuity in selecting for their children a Christian name unsusceptible of the *nick*ing or abbreviating process, thinking with Doctor Dove that “it is not a good thing to be Tom’d or Bob’d, Jack’d or Jim’d, Sam’d or Ben’d, Natty’d or Batty’d, Neddy’d or Teddy’d, Will’d or Bill’d, Dick’d or Nick’d, Joe’d or Jerry’d, as you go through the

world." By the way, that eminent worthy entertained no such repugnance to the feminine *alias*; for "he always used either the baptismal name or its substitute as it happened to suit his fancy, careless of what others might do. Thus he never called any woman Mary, though *Mare*, he said, being the sea, was in many respects too emblematic of the sex. It was better to use a synonyme of better omen, and Molly was therefore preferred as being soft. If he accosted a vixen of that name in her worst temper, he *Mollyfied* her! On the contrary, he never could be induced to substitute Sally for Sarah. Sally, he said, had a salacious sound, and moreover it reminded him of rovers, which women ought not to be. Martha he called Patty, because it came *pat* to the tongue. Dorothy remained Dorothy, because it was neither fitting that women should be made Dolls nor I-dols! Susan with him was always *Sue*, because women were to be *Sue*-ed, and Winifred, *Winny*, because they were to be won."\*

\* The Doctor, vol. vii.



A LIST  
OF  
SIXTY OF THE MOST COMMON SURNAMES  
IN  
ENGLAND AND WALES,

SHOWING AGAINST EACH SURNAME THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, DEATHS,  
AND MARRIAGES OF PERSONS BEARING IT, REGISTERED IN ONE  
YEAR; VIZ. BETWEEN JULY 1, 1837, AND JUNE 30, 1838, BOTH IN-  
CLUSIVE.\*

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HIS document, which has been kindly forwarded to me by W. H. W. Tithe-ridge, Esq., is a curious piece of statistics, and may afford gratification to those who have done me the honour to peruse these volumes. An analysis of it might not be unworthy of attention, but as it only reached me on the eve of publication, I must content myself with a few general observations.

First, it will be seen that our old friends the *Smiths* maintain their character for numerousness, no less than 5588 having been added by birth in a single year, while only 4044 have died, leaving a clear gain of 1544! The *Joneses* present us with 5353 new specimens of their race, the *Browns* with 2366, and the *Robinsons* with 1455. The two latter, it may be remarked, have lost somewhat of their *popularity*,

\* Extracted from the Indexes in the General Register Office.

being totally eclipsed by the *Taylors* (2647) and the *Williamses* (3490). The *Davieses* (2252) and the *Thomases* (2236) nearly equal the Browns, while they clearly exceed the Robinsons. This, however, is mainly owing to the Welsh, whose paucity of surnames gives the preponderance in all the cases alluded to except the Taylors, who are now fairly entitled to stand third, if not second, in the list of strictly English family names.

2. Of the 60 names shown in this document to be the most numerous, 59 are of indigenous growth. The only foreign one is that of *Marshall*, and it is highly curious that it occupies the lowest place on the list, having yielded but 598 new individuals within the year.

3. Not one *local* surname of the first class occurs among the sixty; of the second, *Green*, *Hall*, *Hill*, and *Wood*, with *Lee*, *Moore*, and *Shaw*, fully sustain their numerosity.

4. The surnames derived from Christian or personal names, are, of course, in an overwhelming majority. The limited number of surnames in Wales, above alluded to, contributes largely to this result.

5. Of names derived from employments (whether official or manual), *Baker*, *Clark*, *Cooper*, *Turner*, *Walker*, *Ward*, and *Wright*, occupy (next to Smith and Taylor) the highest place. Of *Kings*, 883 arrived in these realms, while 789 were deposed by the grim monarch, before whom

“ Sceptre and crown must tumble down,  
And in the dust be equal made  
With the poor crooked scythe and spade.”

Lastly, although the surnames derived from personal




and moral qualities are exceedingly numerous, only three—Browne, Mitchell, and White—claim a place among the mighty sixty.

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
Adams . . . .	598	510	368
Allen . . . .	886	771	459
Bailey . . . .	711	555	378
Baker . . . .	1,033	839	513
Bennett . . . .	673	620	408
Brown . . . .	2,366	1,972	1,247
Carter . . . .	753	668	461
Chapman . . . .	624	512	370
Clark . . . .	1,096	952	635
Clarke . . . .	785	792	468
Cook . . . .	910	742	483
Cooper . . . .	1,103	950	640
Davies . . . .	2,252	1,900	1,437
Davis . . . .	1,049	1,038	574
Edwards . . . .	1,110	1,065	822
Evans . . . .	1,983	1,762	1,185
Green . . . .	1,333	1,117	662
Griffiths . . . .	686	667	448
Hall . . . .	1,347	1,131	749
Harris . . . .	1,127	1,005	639
Harrison . . . .	1,072	856	574
Hill . . . .	1,182	989	685
Hughes . . . .	1,280	1,131	769
Hunt . . . .	634	509	332
Jackson . . . .	1,300	1,058	682
James . . . .	967	739	503
Johnson . . . .	1,476	1,386	881
Jones . . . .	5,353	4,610	3,466
King . . . .	883	789	484
Lee . . . .	750	626	439
Lewis . . . .	1,278	1,066	790
Marshall . . . .	598	430	379
Martin . . . .	942	806	524
Mitchell . . . .	620	509	351
Moore . . . .	837	677	471

## COMMON SURNAMES.

	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.
Morgan . . . .	925	828	543
Morris . . . .	941	805	553
Parker . . . .	824	694	471
Phillips . . . .	769	746	482
Price . . . .	789	804	497
Richards . . . .	624	600	436
Richardson . . . .	742	638	437
Roberts . . . .	1,830	1,409	1,040
Robinson . . . .	1,455	1,223	877
Rogers . . . .	618	541	396
Scott . . . .	684	606	383
Shaw . . . .	738	585	431
Smith . . . .	5,588	4,044	3,005
Taylor . . . .	2,647	2,275	1,518
Thomas . . . .	2,236	1,742	1,300
Thompson . . . .	1,192	1,000	682
Turner . . . .	1,217	1,011	680
Walker . . . .	1,324	1,070	754
Ward . . . .	985	811	522
Watson . . . .	792	692	424
White . . . .	1,249	1,116	722
Williams . . . .	3,490	3,002	2,251
Wilson . . . .	1,406	1,161	832
Wood . . . .	1,328	1,101	748
Wright . . . .	1,398	1,142	729
Totals	77,388	65,395	44,989



# The Roll of Battel Abbey.

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## INTRODUCTION.



HAVE already mentioned this celebrated document, and I cannot better introduce it to the reader than by a quotation from Noble's curious and valuable "Dissertation on the various Changes in the Families of England

since the Conquest," prefixed to his 'History of the College of Arms:'

"Those who had fought under the ducal banners [at Hastings] took every possible means to have their names well known and remembered by future ages, not only because they and their descendants would by it be enabled to plead for favours from the reigning family, and an assuring to themselves the estates they had gained, but also from the pride inherent in human nature as founders of families in a country they had won by their prowess. For these reasons the name of every person of any consideration was written upon a Roll, and hung up in the Abbey of Battel.\*

\* William ordered the erection of a monastery on the very spot where he had gained that decisive victory which gave him the crown of England, from which circumstance it was called *Battel Abbey*.

“As the persons there mentioned were the patriarchs of most of the English gentry for many ages, and of many of our chief nobility of the present day, it will not be improper to examine into the authenticity of this roll of names; for different authors have given, some a greater, and some a less, number. As to the orthography, it is of little consequence; the spelling of names was not at that time, nor for many ages afterwards, fixed; every one writing them as he pleased.

“Grafton, in his ‘Chronicle,’ has given very many names, which he received from Clarenceux, king at arms, and out of John Harding’s ‘Chronicle,’ with others. Holinshed mentions upwards of six hundred; Stowe, in his ‘Chronicle,’ only four hundred and seven; Thomas Scriven, Esquire, still fewer. Fuller, in his ‘Church History,’ has copied them, but he does not mention who Mr. Scriven was, nor from whence that gentleman took them. Foxe, in his ‘Acts and Monuments,’ has also given in a list of the names of William’s officers and great men; but these, Fuller thinks, were not collected by Foxe. This catalogue of names is valuable, however, because the initials of the Christian names are given. The great difference made in these collections, naturally leads us to suspect that many omissions are made in some, and that numbers of names have been put into others to please individuals. Sir William Dugdale openly accuses the monks of Battel of flattery, from having inserted the names of persons whose ancestors were never at the Conquest. Guilleam Tayleur, a Norman historian, who could not have had any communication with the monks of Battel, has also published the muster-roll, which was called over after the battle of Hastings.”\*

\* “The day after the battel, very early in the morning, Odo, Bishop



In the foregoing enumeration of the copies of this famous Roll, the writer does not mention Leland's copy, nor that of Dugdale. It is remarkable that although many, perhaps the majority, of the names occur in all the copies, others occur in one or two only; and the difference between the copies is such as to render all attempts at collation useless. As my object is to give names said to have been introduced into this country by the Norman Conquest, rather than a critical inquiry into the authenticity of the several lists, I shall lay before the reader three of the latter, namely, those of Leland, Holinshed, and Foxe, adding, *en passant*, such notes and observations as may seem useful in illustration of the subject.

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The original ROLL, compiled by the monks of Battel, was hung up in their monastery, beneath the following Latin verses:

“Dicitur a bello, Bellum locus hic, quia bello  
 Angligenae victi, sunt hic in morte relictī:  
 Martyris in Christi festo cecidere Calixti:  
 Sexagenus erat sextus millesimus annus  
 Cum pereunt Angli stella monstrante cometa.”

*Id est,*

“This place is called Battel, because the English, slain in war, were here left dead. They fell on the

of Baieux, sung masse for those that were departed. The duke after that, desirous to know the estate of his battell, and what people he had therein lost and were slaine, he caused to come unto him a clerk, that had written their names when they were embarked at S. Valeries, and commanded him to call them all by their names, who called them that had bin at the battell, and passed the seas with Duke William.”—*John Foxe, Acts and Mon.*

day of the feast of Christ's martyr, Calixtus. It was the year one thousand and sixty-six when the English perished, a great comet being visible at the time." (?)

A metrical English version of these verses was formerly inscribed on a tablet in the parish church of Battel.

" This place of war is Battel called, because in battel here,  
Quite conquered and owerthrown the English nation were ;  
This slaughter happened to them upon St. Celict's Day,  
The year whereof (1066) this number doth array."

Of the history of the Roll subsequently to the dissolution of the monastery nothing certain is known. Three months after the surrender of the abbey, the site and lands were given by Henry VIII to Sir Anthony Browne, ancestor of the Viscounts Montague. This family sold the mansion, with its appurtenances, to Sir Thomas Webster, Bart. (whose descendants still possess it), and resided afterwards at their other seat, Cowdray House near Midhurst, and thither this famous document was probably carried.\* Cowdray was destroyed by fire in 1793, when the Roll is presumed to have perished, with everything else of value which that lordly edifice contained.

\* Gleanings respecting Battel Abbey.

## Leland's Copy.

THE preference ought unquestionably to be conceded to this copy. John Leland saw and transcribed the original; and in the notes to his transcript he notices some particular points marked upon the Roll, which he also transfers to his copy. There seems to be an attempt to arrange the names in such a manner as to make the last syllable of the second pair rhyme with that of the first, and also to produce alliteration in the pairs, *e. g.*

“Ferers et Foleville,  
Briaunson et Baskeville.”

---

Aumarill et Deyncourt,	Loveyne et Lascy,
Bertrem et Buttencourt,	Graunson et Tracy,
Baird et Biford,	Mohaud et Mooun,*
Bardolf et Basset,	Bigot et Brown,†
Deyville et Darcy,	Marney et Maundeville,
Pygot et Percy,	Vipont et Umfreville,
Gurney et Greilly,	Mauley et Meneville,
Tregos et Trylly,	Burnel et Buttevillain,
Camoys et Cameville,	Malebuche et Malemayn,
Hautein et Hanville,	Morteyn et Mortimer,
Warrenne et Wauncy,	Comeyn et Columber,
Chauunt et Chauncy,	St. Cloyis et St. Clere,‡

\* This may have been the origin of *Moon*.

† This name occurs in most copies of the *Roll*, but it would seem to be an interpolation, unless, indeed, it be an English spelling of the French *Brun*.

‡ Some of the Normans “affecting religion took the name of some Saint.”—Noble, pp. 6, 7.

Otinel et St. Thomer,	Fitz-Phillip et Filiot,
.. *	Takel et Talbot
Gorgeise et Gower,	Lenias et Levecot,
Bruys et Dispenser,	Fourbeville et Tipitot,
Lymesey et Latymer,	Saunzauer et Saundford,
Boys et Boteler,	Montague et Mountford,
Fenes et Filebert,	Forneux et Furnivaus,
Fitz-Roger et Fitz-Robert,	Valence et Vaux,
Martine et Muse,	Clerevals et Clarel,
St. Ligiere et Quyncey,	Dodingle et Darel,
Cricketot et Crevecuer,	Mantelent et Maudiet,
Morley et Moundeville,	Chapes et Chaudut,
Baillole et Boundeville,	Cauntelow et Coubray,
Estraunge et Estoteville,	Saint Tesc et Saunay,
Mowbray et Morville,	Braund et Baybof,
Viez et Vinoun,	Fitz-Alayne et Gilebof,
Audele et Aungeloun,	Maunys et Maulos,
Vausteneys et Wauille,	Power et Panel, alias Paignel,
Soucheville Coudrey et Colleville,	Tuchet et Trusselle,
Ferers et Foleville,	Peche et Peverelle,
Briaunson et Baskeville,	Daubenay et Deverelle,
Neners et Nereville,	Saint Amande et Adryelle,
Chamberlayne et Chaumberoun,	Ryvers et Ryvel,
Fitz-Walter et Werdoun,	Loveday et Lovel,
Argenteyn et Aveneile,	Denyas et Druel,
Ros et Ridel,	Mountburgh et Mounsorel,
Hasting† et Haulley,	Maleville et Malet,
Merkenfell et Mourreis,	Newmarch et Newbet,
	Corby et Corbet,
	Mounfey et Mountfichet,

\* Sic cum duobus punctis.

† This name would seem to be of the local kind, and was probably borrowed from Hastings in Sussex. This, however, is no argument against the Norman origin of this celebrated family, as some Norman grandees took the names of the seignories given them by the Conqueror.



Gaunt et Garre,	Neville et Newburgh,
Maleberge et Marre,	Fitz-William et Wateville, §
Geneville et Gifard,	De la Launde et Del Isle,
Someray et Howarde,	Sorel et Somery,
Perot et Pykard,	St. John et St. Iory,
Chaundoy et Chaward,	Wavile et Warley,
De la Hay et Haunsard,	De la Pole et Pinkeney,
Mussegros et Musard,	Mortivaus et Mounthensey,
Maingun et Mountravers,	Crescy et Courteny,
Fovecourt et Feniers,	St. Leo et Lascey,
Vesay et Verders,	Bavent et Bassey,
Brabason et Bevers,	Lascels et Lovein,
Challouns et Chaleys,	Thays et Tony,
Maihermer et Muschet,	Hurel et Husee,
* .	Longville et Longespe,
Baus et Bluet,	De Wake et de la War,
Beke et Biroune,	De la Marche et de la Mare,
Saunz Peur et Fitz Simoun,	Constable et Tally,
Gaugy† et Gobaude,	.
Rugetius et Fitz-Bohant,	Poynce et Paveley,
Peverel et Fitz-Payne,	Tuk et Tany,
-ger,	Mallop et Marny,
Fitz-Robert et Fitz-Aleyne,	Paifrer et Plukenet,
... ‡	Bretoun et Blundet,
Souley et Soules,	Myriet et Morley,
Bruys et Burgh,	Tyriet et Turley,

\* Sic cum puncto sub posteriore parte literæ *m*.

† Gage?

‡ Sic cum tribus punctis.

§ The termination *ville* (equivalent to our own *ton*) was the prevalent one among the Normans. Noble gives the following general rule for ascertaining the district to which any particular name in the Roll should be assigned: "The Norman names end chiefly in *-ville*; those of Anjou in *-lere*; those of Guienne and the banks of the Garonne in *-ac*; and those of Picardy in *-cour*."

|| Sic cum puncto sub posteriore *l*.

Fryville et Fresell,  
 De la River et Rivell,  
 Destranges et Delatoun,  
 Perrers et Pavilloun,  
 Vallonis et Vernoun,  
 Grymward et Gernoun,  
 Herey et Heroun,  
 Verdour et Veroun,  
 Dalseny et Dautre,  
 Mengle et Maufe,  
 Maucovenaunt et Mounpin-  
 son,  
 Pikard et Pinkadoun,  
 Gray et Graunson,  
 Diseny et Dabernoun,  
 Maoun et Mainard,  
 Banestre et Bekard,  
 Bealum et Beauchamp,

. \*

Loverak et Longechamp,  
 Baudin et Bray,  
 Saluayn et Say,  
 Ry et Rokel,  
 Fitz-Rafe et Rosel,  
 Fitz-Bryan et Bracey,  
 Place et Placey,  
 Damary et Deveroys,  
 Vavasor et Warroys,  
 Perpounte et Fitz-Peris,  
 Sesce et Solers,  
 Navimere et Fitz-Nele,

Waloys et Levele,  
 Caumpeneys et Chaunceus,  
 Malebys et Monceus,  
 Thorney et Thornille,  
 Wace et Wyville,  
 Velroys et Wacely,  
 Pugoys et Paiteny,  
 Galofer et Gubioun,  
 Burdet et Baroun,  
 Davarenge et Duylyl,  
 Soverenge et Snylly,  
 Kymarays et Kyriel,  
 Lisours et Longvale,  
 Glauncourt et Chaumont,  
 Bawdewyn et Beaumont,  
 Graundyn et Gerdoun,  
 Blundel et Burdoun,  
 Fitz-Rauf† et Filiol,  
 Fitz-Thomas et Tybot,  
 Onatule et Cheyni,  
 Maulicerer et Mouncey,  
 Querru et Coigners,  
 Mauclerk et Maners,  
 Warde et Werlay,  
 Nusetys et Merlay,  
 Baray et Breteville,  
 Tolimer et Treville,  
 Blounte et Boseville,  
 Liffard et Oseville,  
 Benny et Boyville,  
 Courson et Courtville,

\* Sic cum puncto sub posteriore parte literæ *m*.

† Verstegan is of opinion that the prefix *FITZ* originated in Flanders. It is remarkable that it is now unknown in France, and that it does not occur in the antient chronicles of that country. (Noble.)

Fitz-Maurice et St. More,  
 Broth et Barbedor,  
 Fitz-Hugh et Fitz-Henry,  
 Fitz-Aviz et Esturmy,  
 Walangay et Fitz-Warin,  
 Fitz-Raynald et Roselin,  
 Baret et Bourt,  
 Heryce et Harecourt,  
 Venable et Venour,  
 Hayward\* et Henour,  
 Dulce et De la Laund,  
 De la Valet et Veylaund,  
 De la Plaunche et Puterel,  
 Loring et Loterel,  
 Fitz-Marmaduk et Mount-  
     rivel,  
 Tinel et Travile,  
 Byngard et Bernevale,  
 La-Muile et Lownay,  
 Damot et Damay,  
     .. †  
 Bonet et Barry,  
 Avonel et St. Amary,  
 Jardyn et Jay,  
 Fourys et Tay,  
 Aimeris et Avereris,  
 Vilain et Valeris,  
 Fitz-Eustace et Eustacy,  
 Mauches et Massey,  
 Brian et Bidin,  
 Movet et St. Martine,  
 Surdevale et Sengryn,

Buscel et Bevery,  
 Durant et Doreny,  
 Disart et Dorynell,  
 Male-Kake et Mauncel,  
 Burneville et Bretville,  
 Hameline et Hareville,  
 De la Huse et Howel,  
 Finge et Coruyle,  
 Chartres et Chenil,  
 Belew et Bertine,  
 Mangysir et Mauveysin,  
 Angers et Angewyne,  
 Tolet et Tisoun,  
 Fermbaud et Frisoun,  
     .. ‡  
 St. Barbe et Sageville,  
 Vernoun et Waterville,  
 Wermelay et Wamerville,  
     u  
 Broy et Bromeville,  
     .. §  
 Bleyn et Briecourt,  
 Tarteray et Chercourt,  
 Oysel et Olifard,  
 Maulovel et Maureward,  
 Kancœs et Keveters,  
 Loif et Lymers,  
 Rysers et Reyneville,  
 Busard et Belevile,  
 Rivers et Ripers,  
 Perechay et Perers,  
 Fichent et Trivent.

\* This is evidently an English name.

‡ Sic cum duobus punctis.

† Sic cum duobus punctis.

§ Sic cum duobus punctis.

## Holinshed's Cope.

Aumarle,	Bardolfe,	Baloun,
Aincourt,	Basset and	Beauchampe,
Audeley,	Bigot,	Bray and
Angilliam,	Bohun,	Bandy,
Argentoune,	Bailif,	Bracy,
Arundel,	Bondeville,	Boundes,
Auenant,	Brabason,	Bascoun,
Abell,	Baskerville,	Broilem,
Arwerne,	Bures,	Broleuy,
Aunwers,	Bounilaine,	Burnell,
Angers,	Bois,	Bellet,
Angenoun,	Botelere,	Baudewin,
Archere,	Bourcher,	Burdon,
Anuay,	Brabaion,	Berteuilay,
Asperuile,	Berners,	Busseuille,
Abbeville,	Braibuf,	Blunt,
Andevile,	Brand and	Baupere,
Amouerduile,	Brouce,	Bevill,
Arcy and	Burgh,	Barduedor,
Akeny,	Bushy,	Brette,
Albeny,	Banet,	Barrett,
Aybeuare,	Blondell,	Bonnett,
Amay,	Breton,	Bainard,
Aspermound,	Bluat and	Barnivale,
Amerenges.	Baious,	Bonett,
Bertram,	Browne,	Bary,
Buttecourt,	Beke,	Bryan,
Brebus and	Bikard,	Bodin,
Bysey,	Banastre,	Beteruile,



Bertin,	Brutz,	Conestable,
Bereneuile,	Barchampe,	Cholmeley,
Bellew,	Beaumont,	Champney,
Beuery,	Barre.	Chawnos,
Bushell,	Camois,	Coinivile,
Boranuile,	Camvile,	Champaine,
Browe,	Chawent,	Careuile,
Beleuers,	Cauncy,	Carbonelle,
Buffard,	Conderay,	Charles,
Bonueier,	Colvile,	Chereberge,
Botevile,	Chamberlaine,	Chawnes,
Bellire,	Chambernoun,	Chaumont,
Bastard,	Comin,	Caperoun,†
Brazard,	Columber,	Cheine,
Beelhelme,	Cribett,	Curson,
Braine,	Creuquere,	Couille,
Brent,	Corbine,	Chaiters,
Braunch,	Corbett,	Cheines,
Belesur,	Chaundos,	Cateray,
Blundell,	Chaworth,	Cherecourt,
Burdett,	Cleremaus,	Cammile,
Bagott,	Clarell,	Clerenay,
Beauuise,	Chopis,	Curly,
Belemis,	Chaunduit,	Cuily,
Beisin,	Chantelow,*	Clinels,
Bernon,	Chamberay,†	Clifford.
Boels,	Cressy,	Denaville,
Belefroun,	Curtenay,	Derey,

\* Cantelupe?

† De-la-Chambre?

‡ Caperoun. The antient family of Quaife, of Kent and Sussex, have a tradition that their ancestor came into England with the Conqueror, and that he was called *Coife*, because he wore a *hood* in battle instead of a helmet. Now *caperoun* is the old French for *chaperon*, a hood, which renders it exceedingly probable that the individual named in the Roll and the person referred to by the tradition are identical.

Dive,	Deheuse,	Fitz Rauf,
Dispencere,	Deuile,	Fitz Browne,
Daubeney,	Disard,	Fouke,
Daniel,	Doiville,	Frevile,
Deuise and	Durand,	Front de Boef,*
Druell,	Drury,	Facunburge,
Devaus,	Dabitott,	Forz,
Davers,	Dunsterville,	Frisell,
Dodingsels,	Dunchamp,	Fitz Simon,
Darell,	Dambelton.	Fitz Fouk,
Delaber,	Estrange,	Folioll,
De la Pole,	Estuteville,	Fitz Thomas,
De la Linde,	Engaine,	Fitz Morice,
De la Hill,	Estriels,	Fitz Hugh,
De la Ware,	Esturney.	Fitz Henrie,
De la Uache,	Ferrerers,	Fitz Waren,
Dakeny,	Folvile,	Fitz Rainold,
Dauntre,	Fitz Walter,	Flamvile,
Desny,	Fitz Marmaduke,	Formay,
Dabernoune,	Fleuez,	Fitz Eustach,
Damry,	Filberd,	Fitz Lawrence,
Daueros,	Fitz Roger,	Formibaud,
Dauonge,	Faucourt,	Frisound,
Duilby,	Ferrers,	Finere,
De la Uere,	Fitz Philip,	Fitz Robert,
De la Hoid,	Foliot,	Furnivall,
Durange,	Furnieueus,	Fitz Geffrey,
Delee,	Fitz Otes,	Fitz Herbert,
Delaund,	Fitz William,	Fitz Peres,
Delaward,	Fitz Roand,	Fichet,
De la Planch,	Fitz Pain,	Fitz Rewes,
Damnot,	Fitz Auger,	Fitz Fitz,
Danway,	Fitz Aleyn,	Fitz John,

\* An early instance of the *sobriquet*, literally signifying "the forehead of an ox."

Fleschampe.	Giffard,	Kaunt,
Gurnay,	Gouerges,	Karre,
Gressy,	Gamages.	Karrowe,
Graunson,	Hauteny,	Keine,
Gracy,	Haunsard,	Kimaronne,
Georges,	Hastings,	Kiriell,
Gower,	Hanlay,	Kancey,
Gaugy,	Haurell,	Kenelre.
Goband,	Husee,	Loueney,
Gray,	Hercy,	Lacy,
Gaunson,	Herioun,	Linnebey,
Golofre,	Herne,	Latomer,
Gobion,	Harecourt,	Loveday,
Grensy,	Henoure,	Lovell,
Graunt,	Houell,	Lemare,
Greile,	Hamelin,	Leuetot,
Grenet,	Harewell,*	Lucy,
Gurry,	Hardell,	Luny,
Gurley,	Haket,	Logeuile,
Grammori,	Hamound,	Longespes,
Gernoun,	Harcord.	Louerace,
Grendon,	Jarden,	Longechampe,
Gurdon,	Jay,	Lascales,
Guines,	Jeniels,	Louan,
Griuel,	Jerconuise,	Leded,
Greneuile,	Januile,	Luse,
Glateuile,	Jasperuile.	Loterell,

\* From the frequent occurrence of names with such very English orthographies, one of two things is pretty certain. Either the monks of Battel introduced names of English families surreptitiously to gratify the vanity of benefactors, or the Roll cannot have been compiled until many years after the foundation of the abbey, and by persons who did not understand the French language. This remark may seem to clash with a former note, (vide the name of Hasting in Leland's copy ;) but the names borrowed from seignories in England, *immediately* after the Conquest, were very few in number.

Loruge,	Montrauers,	Manuile,
Longueuale,	Merke,	Mangisere,
Loy,	Murres,	Maumasin,
Lorancourt,	Mortiuale,	Mountlouel,
Loious,	Monchenesey,	Maurewarde,
Limers,	Mallony,	Monhaut,
Longepay,	Marny,	Meller,
Laumale,	Mountagu,	Mountgomerie,
Lane,	Mountford,	Manlay,
Lovetot.	Maule,	Maularde,
Mohant,	Monthermon,	Menere,
Mowne,	Musett,	Martinaste,
Maundevile,	Menevile,	Mainwaring,
Marmilon,	Manteuenant,	Matelay,
Moribray,	Manse,	Malemis,
Morvile,	Menpincoy,	Maleheire,
Miriell,	Maine,	Moren,
Maulay,	Maniard,	Melun,
Malebrauch,	Morell,	Marceaus,
Malemaine,	Mainell,	Maiell,
Mortimere,	Maleluse,	Morton.
Mortimaine,	Memorous,	Noers,
Muse,	Morreis,	Nevile,
Marteine,	Morleian,	Newmarch,
Mountbother,	Maine,	Norbet,
Mountsoler,	Malevere,	Norice,
Maleuile,	Mandut,	Newborough,
Malet,	Mountmarten,	Neiremet,
Mourteney,	Mantolet,	Neile,
Montfichet,	Miners,	Normavile,
Maleherbe,	Mauclerke,	Nefmarche,
Mare,	Maunchenell,	Nermitz,
Musegros,	Mouett,	Nembrutz.
Musarde,	Meintenore,	Otevell,
Moine,	Meletak,	Olibef,



Olifant,	Pekeny,	Rigny,
Olenel,	Poterell,	Richmound,
Oisell,	Peukeny,	Rochford,
Olifard,	Peccell,†	Raimond.
Ounall,	Pinell,	Souch,
Orioll.	Putrill,	Sheuile,
Pigot,	Petiuoll,	Sucheus,
Pery,	Preaus,	Senclere,
Perepound,	Pantolf,	Sent Quintin,
Pershale,	Peito,	Sent Omere,
Power,	Penecord,	Sent Amond,
Panell,	Preuelirlegast,	Sent Legere,
Peche and	Percivale.	Somervile,
Pauey,	Quinci,	Sieward,
Pevrell,	Quintini.	Saunsouerre,
Perot,	Ros,	Sanford,
Picard,	Ridell,	Sanctes,
Pinkenie,	Rivers,	Sauay,
Pomeray,	Riuell,	Saulay,
Pounce,	Rous,	Sules,
Pavely,	Rushell,	Sorell,
Paifreere,	Raband,	Somerey,
Plukenet,*	Ronde,	Sent John,
Phuars,	Rie,	Sent George,
Punchardoun,	Rokell,	Sent Les,
Pinchard,	Risers,	Seffe,
Placy,	Randuile,	Saluin,
Pugoy,	Roselin,	Say,
Patefine,	Rastoke,	Solers,
Place,	Rinuill,	Sent Albin,
Pampilivun,	Rougere,	Sent Martin,
Percelay,	Rait,	Sourdemale,
Perere and	Ripere,	Seguin,

\* *Plucknett.*† *Pechell?*

Sent Barbe,	Trencheville,	Veniels,
Sent Vile,	Trenchilion,	Verrere,
Suremounte,	Tankerville,	Vschere,
Soreglise,	Tirell,	Vessay,
Sandvile,	Trivet,	Vanay,
Sauncey,	Tolet,	Vian,
Sirewast,	Travers,	Vernoys,
Sent Cheveroll,	Tardevile,	Vrnall,
Sent More,	Tinevile,	Vnket,
Sent Scudemore.	Torell,	Vrnaful,
Toget,	Tortechappell,	Vasderoll,
Tercy,	Treverell,	Vaberon,
Tuchet,	Tenwis,	Valingford,
Tracy,	Totelles.	Venecorde,
Trousbut,	Vere,	Valiue,
Trainell,	Vernoun,	Viuille,
Taket,	Vesey,	Vancorde, and
Trussell,	Verdouné,	Valenges.
Trison,	Valence,	Wardebois,
Talbot,	Verdeire,	Ward,
Touny,	Vavasour,	Wafre,
Traies,	Vendore,	Wake,
Tollemach,	Verley,	Wareine,
Tolous,	Valenger,*	Wate,
Tanny,	Venables,	Watelin,
Touke,	Venoure,	Watevil,
Tibtote,	Vilan,	Wely,
Turbeville,	Verland,	Werdonell,
Turvile,	Valers,	Wespaile,
Tomy and	Veirny,	Wivell.
Tavernes,	Vauuruile,	

\* Now *Wallinger*.

## John Foxe's Copy.

It is, strictly speaking, a misnomer to call this a copy of the Battel Roll. Foxe does not mention it as such, but says, he took it "out of the Annals of Normandy, in French, whereof one very ancient written booke in parchment remaineth in the custody of the writer hereof."

*"The names of those that were at the Conquest of  
England."*

Odo, Bishop of Baieux,	Henry Seigneur de Ferrières,
Robert, Conte de Mortaign,	Le Sire Daubemare,
(these two were brethren	Guillaume Sire de Rommare,*
unto Duke William by	Le Sire de Lithehare,
their mother,)	Le Sire de Touque,
Baudwin de Buillon,	Le Sire de la Mare,
Roger Conte de Beaumont,	Le Sire de Neauhau,
surnamed With the Beard,	Le Sire de Pirou,
of whom descended the	Rob. Sire de Beaufou,
line of Meullent,	Le Sire Davou,
Guillaume Malet,	Le Sire de Sotoville,
Le Sire de Monfort, sur	Le Sire de Margneville,
Rille,	Le Sire de Tancarville,
Guill. de Viexpont,	Eustace Dambleville,
Neel de S. Saveur le Viconte,	Le Sire de Mangneville,
Le Sire de Hougiers,	Le Sire de Gratmesnil,

\* It is pretty evident that this personage and numerous others in this list had not as yet assumed surnames, although they soon after took the names of their estates as family appellatives.

Guillaume Crespin,	Le Sire de Torcy,
Le Sire de S. Martin,	Le Sire de Iort,
Guill. de Moulins,	Le Sire de Riviers,
Le Sire de Puis,	Guillaume Moyonne,
Geoffrey Sire de Maienne,	Raoul Tesson de Tingueleiz,
Auffroy de Bohon,	Roger Marmion,
Auffroy and Maugier de Car-	Raoul de Guel,
trait,	Avenel des Biars,
Guill. de Garrennes.	Paennel du Monstier-Hubert,
Hue de Gournay,	Rob. Bertram le Tort,
Sire de Bray,	Le Sire de Seulle,
Le Conte Hue de Gournay,	Le Sire de Dorival,
Euguemont de l'Aigle,*	Le Sire de Breval,
Liviconte de Touars,	Le Sire de S. Iehan,
Rich. Danverrnechin,	Le Sire de Bris,
Le Sire de Biars,	Le Sire du Homme,
Le Sire de Solligny,	Le Sire de Sauchhoy,
Le Bouteiller Daubigny,	Le Sire de Cailly,
Le Sire de Maire,	Le Sire de Semilly,
Le Sire de Vitry,	Le Sire de Tilly,
Le Sire de Lacy,	Le Sire de Romelly,
Le Sire du Val Dary,	Mar. de Basqueville,
Le Sire de Tracy,	Le Sire de Preaulx,
Hue Sire de Montfort,	Le Sire de Gonis,
Le Sire de Piquegny,	Le Sire de Sainceaulx,
Hamon de Kaieu,	Le Sire de Moulloy,
Le Sire Despinay,	Le Sire de Monceaulx.
Le Sire de Port,	

\* Elsewhere called Engenulph d'Aquila or Aguillon.



¶ *The Archers du Val du Real, and of Bretheul, and of many other places.*

Le Sire de S. Saen, i. de S.	Le Sire de Bonneboz,
Sydonio,	Le Sire de Tresgoz,
Le Sire de la Kiviere,	Le Sire de Montfiquet,
Le Sire de Salnaruille,	Hue le Bigor de Maletot,
Le Sire de Rony,	Le Sire de la Hay,
Eude de Beaugieu,	Le Sire de Mombray,
Le Sire de Oblie,	Le Sire de Say,
Le Sire de Sacie,	Le Sire de lay Ferte,
Le Sire de Nassie,	Bouteuillian,
Le Visquaius de Chymes,	Troussebout,
Le Sire du Sap,	Guillaume Patric de la Laund,
Le Sire de Glos,	Hue de Mortemer,
Le Sire de Mine,	Le Sire Danuillers,
Le Sire de Glanuille,	Le Sire Donnebaut,
Le Sire de Breencon,	Le Sire de S. Cler,
Le Vidam de Partay,	Rob. le filz Herneys duc
Raoul de Morimont,	de Orleans,
Pierre de Bailleul Sire de	Le Sire de Harecourt,
Fiscamp,	Le Sire de Crevecœur,
Le Sire de Beaufault,	Le Sire de Deincourt,
Le Sire de Tillieres,	Le Sire de Bremetot,
Le Sire de Pacy,	Le Sire Combray,
Le Seeschal de Torcy,	Le Sire Daunay,
Le Sire de Gacy,	Le Sire de Fontenay,
Le Sire de Douilly,	Le Conte Deureux,
Le Sire de Sacy,	Le Sire de Rebelchil,
Le Sire de Vacy,	Alain Fergant Conte de
Le Sire de Tourneeur,	Britaigne,
Le Sire de Praeres,	Le Sire de S. Vallery,
Guillaume de Coulombieres,	Le Conte Deu,
Hue Sire de Bollebec,	Gualtier Gifford Conte de
Rich. Sire Dorbeck,	Longeville,

Le Sire Destouteville,	Le Sire de Pauilly,
Le Conte Thomas Daubmalle,	Le Sire de Clere,
Guill. Conte de Hoymes and	Toustan du Bec,
d'Arques,	Le Sire Maugny,
Le Sire de Bereville,	Roger de Montgomery,
Le Sire de Breante,	Amauri de Touars.
Le Sire de Freanvible	

“ Out of the ancient Chronicles of England, touching the names of other *Normans* which seemed to remaine alive after the battell, and to be advanced in the signiories of this land :”

John de Maudeville,	I. Aguleyne,
Adam Vndevile,	G. Agilon,
Bernard de Frevile,	R. Chamburlayne,
Rich. de Rochuile,	N. de Vendres,
Gilbert de Frankuile,	H. de Verdon,
Hugo de Dovile,	H. de Verto,
Symond de Rotevile,	C. de Vernon,
R. de Evile,	H. Hardul,
B. de Knevile,	C. Cappan,
Hugo de Morvile,	W. de Camvile,
R. de Colevile,	I. de Cameyes,
A. de Warvile,	R. de Rotes,
C. de Karvile,	R. de Boys,
R. de Rotevile,	W. de Waren,
S. de Stotevile,	T. de Wardboys,
H. Bonum,	R. de Boys,
I. Monum,	W. de Audeley,
W. de Vignoum,	K. Dynham,
K. de Vispount,	R. de Vaures,
W. Bailbeof,	G. Vargenteyn,
S. de Baleyn,	I. de Hastings,
H. de Marreys,	G. de Hastank,

L. de Burgee,  
R. de Butuileyn,  
H. de Malebranch,  
S. de Malemain,  
G. de Hauteville,  
H. Hauteyn,  
R. de Morteyn,  
R. de Mortimer,  
G. de Kanovile,  
E. de Columb,  
W. Paynal,  
C. Panner,  
H. Pontrel,  
I. de Rivers,  
T. Revile,  
W. de Beauchamp,  
R. de Beaupale,  
E. de Ou,  
F. Lovel,  
S. de Troys,  
I. de Artel,  
John de Montebrugge,  
H. de Monteserel,  
W. Trussebut,  
W. Trussel,  
H. Byset,  
R. Basset,  
R. Molet,  
H. Malovile,  
G. Bonet,  
P. de Bonvile,  
S. de Rovile,  
N. de Norback,  
I. de Corneux,  
P. de Corbet,

W. de Mountague,  
S. de Mountfychet,  
I. de Genevyle,  
H. Gyffard,  
I. de Say,  
T. Gilbard,  
R. de Chalons,  
S. de Chauward,  
H. Ferret,  
Hugo Pepard,  
I. de Harecourt,  
H. de Haunsard,  
I. de Lamare,  
P. de Mautrevers,  
G. de Ferron,  
R. de Ferrers,  
I. de Desty,  
W. de Werders,  
H. de Borneuile,  
I. de Saintenys,  
S. de Syncler,  
R. de Gorges,  
E. de Gemere,  
W. de Feus,  
S. de Filberd,  
H. de Turbervile,  
R. Trobleneur,  
R. de Angon,  
T. de Morer,  
T. de Rotelet,  
H. de Spencer,  
E. de Saintquenten,  
I. de Saint Martin,  
G. de Custan,  
Saint Constantine,

Saint Leger and Saint Med,	S. de Gant,
M. de Cronu and de S. Vigier,	G. de Malearbe,
S. de Crayel,	H. Mandut,
R. de Crenker,	W. de Chesun,
N. Meyuel,	L. de Chandut,
I. de Berners,	B. Fitz Urs,
S. de Chumly,	B. Vicont de Low,
E. de Chares,	G. de Cantemere,
J. de Gray,	T. de Cantlow,
W. de Grangers,	R. Breaunce,
S. de Grangers,	T. de Broxeboof,
S. Baubenyn,	S. de Bolebeck,
H. Vamgers,	B. Mol. de Boef,
E. Bertram,	I. de Muelis,
R. Bygot,	R. de Brus,
S. Treoly,	S. de Brewes,
I. Trigos,	J. de Lille,
G. de Feues,	T. de Bellile,
H. Filiot,	J. de Waterville,
R. Taperyn,	G. de Nevile,
S. Talbot,	R. de Neuburgh,
H. Santsaver,	H. de Burgoyne,
T. de Samford,	G. de Bourgh,
G. de Vandien,	S. de Lymoges,
C. de Vautort,	L. de Lyben,
G. de Mountague,	W. de Helyoun,
Tho. de Chambernon,	H. de Hildrebron,
S. de Montfort,	R. de Loges,
R. de Ferneaulx,	S. de Saintlow,
W. de Valence,	I. de Maubank,
T. Clarel,	P. de Saint Malow,
S. de Cleruaus,	R. de Leoferne,
P. de Aubemarle,	I. de Lovotot,
H. de Saint Arvant,	G. de Dabbeville,
E. de Auganuteys,	H. de Appetot,



W. de Percy,	V. de Cresty,
H. de Lacy,	F. de Courcy,
C. de Quincy,	T. de Lamar,
E. Tracy,	H. de Lymastz,
R. de la Souche,	I. de Moubray,
V. de Somery,	C. de Morley,
I. de Saint John,	S. de Gorney,
T. de Saint Gory,	R. de Courtenay,
P. de Boyly,	P. de Gourney,
R. de Saint Valery,	R. de Cony,
P. de Pinkeny,	I. de la Huse,
S. de Pavely,	R. de la Huse,
G. de Monthaut,	V. de Longevile,
T. de Mountchesy,	P. Longespy,
R. de Lymozy,	I. Pouchardon,
G. de Lucy,	R. de la Pomercy,
I. de Artois,	I. de Pountz,
N. de Artey,	R. de Pontlarge,
P. de Grenvile,	R. Estraunge,
I. de Greys,	Tho. Savage.



## Latinized Surnames.

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As Latin was the language employed by the clerks of early times, proper names were almost uniformly latinized. This practice was in full vogue from the eleventh century to the sixteenth, in most legal and other documents written in that language. Thus Hall was made D'AULA ; Rivers, De RIPARIIS ; and Haultry, D'ALTA RIPA. Gilbert de Aquila, surnamed the Great, who flourished in the eleventh century, was called Gislebertus Magnus. This name was again transformed into the Saxon as Gilbert Michel ; and it is remarkable that although the family of which he was the head is extinct in the legitimate line, there are two English families illegitimately descended from him still in existence—one bearing for their patronymic *Egles*, from Aquila, and the other *Michel*, from Magnus—the one his *family*, the other his *personal* surname. By means of this latinization some very commonplace names were transformed into high-sounding appellations—Goldsmith and Saltmarsh, for instance, became *Aurifaber* and *Salsomarisco*. Sometimes the English form was retained with a Latin termination, as *Lowerus Boscowinus*, Lower Boscawen, *Thomas Chouneus*, Thomas Chowne. Even scholars and divines affected this pedantry, and that after the revival of learning, not in

England alone, but in Holland, Germany, and several other countries.\* Some of these attempts to put modern names into a Latin dress were extremely ridiculous. Andrew BORDE, the “original merry Andrew,” in his ‘Boke of the Introduction of Knowledge,’ written in the reign of Henry VIII, styles himself *Andreas Perforatus* (bored!). But this is nothing to the name of Sir John Hawkwood being turned into *Johannes Acutus*! Let Verstegan tell the story:

“Some gentlemen of our nation travelling into Italy and passing thorow Florence, there, in the great church, beholding the monument and epitaph of the renowned English knight, and most famous warrior of his time, there named *Johannes Acutus*, long wondered *what John Sharp this might be*, seeing in England they had never heard of any such, his name rightly written being indeed *Sir John Hawkwood*; but by omitting the H in Latine as frivolous, and the K and W as unusual, he is here from *Hawkwood* turned into *Acutus*, and from *Acutus* returned in English again unto *Sharp*!”

Camden gives a list of latinized surnames in his *Remaines*.† In Wright’s “Court Hand Restored,”‡ is a more copious catalogue, which I here copy, in the hope that it will prove useful to the antiquary, and afford some amusement to the general reader. It is certainly interesting in an etymological point of view, although not much to be depended upon in that

\* Does not our veneration for Erasmus and Grotius and old Puteanus receive a slight shock, when we find that they were, *de jure*, only simple Gerard and Groot and Vandeput?

† Pages 130-3.

‡ London, 1776.

respect. I have made a few literal and verbal alterations, but they are not of sufficient importance to need particularizing.

## A.

De Adurni portu,	Ethrington.
De Albeneio,	D'Aubeney, Albiney.
De Alba Marla,	Albemarle.
Albericus, Albrea, Aubræus } vel Aubericus,	Awbrey.
De Albo Monasterio,	Whitchurch.
Ala Campi,	Wingfield.
Henricus de Alditheleia,	Was the first Lord Audley.
De Alneto,	Dauney.
De Arcubus,	Bowes.
De Alta ripa,	Dautry.
De Aqua frigida,	Freshwater.
Aqua pontana,	Bridgewater.
De Arida villa,	Dryton, or Drydon.
Arundelius,	} Arundel.
Arundelius, De Hirundine,	
Johannes Avonius,	John of Northampton.
De Augo,	Owe, or Eu.
Aurifaber,	{ Orfeur, an antient name in { Cumberland.
De Aula,	Hall.
De Aureo vado,	Goldford, or Guldeforde.

## B

Bardulphus,	Bardolf, or Bardolph.
De Beda, vel De Bajocis,	Bacon.
De Bella aqua,	Bellew.
De Bella fide,	Beaufoy.
De Bello loco,	Beaulieu.
De Bello loco,	Beaufev.



De Bello marisco,	Beaumarsh.
De Bello faco,	Beaupo.
De Bello campo,	Beauchamp.
De Bello monte,	Beaumont.
De Bello prato,	Beaupre.
De Beverlaco,	Beverley.
De Bello situ,	Ballasise.
De Benefactis,	Benfield.
Benevolus, (!)	Benlows.
De Bona villa,	Bonevil.
De Bono fossato,	Goodrick.
De Blostevilla,	Bloville, Blofield.
Blaunpain, alias Blancpain,*	Whitebread.
Bononius,	Bollen.
Borlasius,	Borlace.
De Bortana, sive Burtana,	Burton.
De Bovis Villa,	Bovil.
De Bosco,	Bois.
De Braiosa,	Braose.
De Bosco Roardi,	Borhard.
De Bruera,	De Bryer, or Bryer.
De Buliaco,	Busli, or Bussey.
De Burgo,	Burgh, Burke, or Bourk.
De Burgo charo,	Bourchier.

c.

De Calvo monte,	Chaumond.
De Camera,	Chambers.
De Campania,	Champnies.
De Campo Florido,	Chamfleur.
De Campo Arnulphi,	Champernoun.
De Capricuria, and	} Chevercourt.
De Capreolocuria,	

\* Some few of these names are Frenchified, not Latinized.

De Cantilupo,	Cantlow.
De Camvilla,	Camvil.
De Capella,	Capel.
Caradocus,	{ Caradock, or Cradock, now called Newton.
De Cearo loco,	Carelieu.
De Casa Dei,	Godshall.
De Casineto and Chaisneto,	Cheyney, Cheney.
De Castello,	Castle, or Castel.
De Castello magno,	Castlemain.
De Ceraso,	Cherry.
De Cestria,	Chester.
Cinomannicus,	Maine.
De Chauris, and Cadurcis,	Chaworth.
Cheligrevus,	Killigrew.
Cherchebeius,	Kirby.
De Claro monte,	Clermont.
De Claris vallibus, Claranas,	Clarival, or Clare.
De Clarifagio,	Clerfay.
De Clintona,	Clinton.
Dé Clivo forti,	Clifford.
De Columbariis,	Columbers.
De Conductu,	Chenduit.
De Cornubia,	Cornwayle.
De Corvo Spinæ,	Crowthorne.
De Curva Spina,	Creithorne.
De Crepito Corde,	Crevecœur.
De Curceo, De Curci,	Decourcy.
Cunetius,	Kenet.

## D.

De Dalenrigius,	Dalegrig, Dalyngruge.
De David villa,	D'Aiville, D'Eyville.
D'Aynecuria vel Daincuriensis,	Daincourt.
De Dovera,	Dover.

De la Mara,	De la Mare.
De Doito ( <i>Fr.</i> Doet),	Brooke.
Dispensator,	Le Dispenser, Spencer.
De Diva,	Dive, Dives.
Drogo,	Drew.
Dunestanvilla,	Dunstavile.
Dutchtius,	Doughty.

## E.

De Ebroicis and de Ebrois,	D'Evreux.
Easterlingus,	Stradling.
De Erolitto,	Erliche.
De Ericeto,	Briewer.
Estlega and de Estlega,	Astley, or Estley.
Extranaeus,	L'Estrange.

## F.

De Fago,	Beech and Beecher.
De Ferrariis,	Ferrers.
De Filiceto,	Fernham.
Filius Alani,	Fitz Alan.
Filius Alvredi,	Fitz Alard.
Filius Amandi,	Fitz Amand.
Filius Andreæ,	Fitz Andrew.
Filius Bernardi,	Fitz Barnard.
Filius Briani,	Fitz Brian.
Filius Comitiss,	Fitz Count.
Filius Eustachii,	Fitz Eustace.
Filius Fulconis,	Fitz Fulk.
Filius Galfredi,	Fitz Geoffry.
Filius Gerrardi,	Fitz Gerrard.
Filius Gilberti,	Fitz Gilbert.
Filius Guidonis,	Fitzwith.
Filius Hardingi,	Fitz Harding.
Filius Haimonis,	Fitz Haimon.

Filius Henrici,	Fitz Henry.
Filius Herberti,	Fitz Herbert.
Filius Hugonis,	Fitz Hugh.
Filius Humphredi,	Fitz Humphrey.
Filius Jacobi,	Fitz James.
Filius Johannis,	Fitz John.
Filius Lucæ,	Fitz Lukas or Lucas.
Filius Mauricii,	Fitz Maurice.
Filius Michaelis,	Fitz Michael.
Filius Nicholai,	Fitz Nichols.
Filius Oliveri,	Fitz Oliver.
Filius Osburni,	Fitz Osburn.
Filius Osmondi,	Fitz Osmond.
Filius Odonis,	Fitz Otes.
Filius Pagani,	Fitz Paine.
Filius Patricii,	Fitz Patrick.
Filius Petri,	Fitz Peter.
Filius Radulphi,	Fitz Ralph.
Filius Reginaldi,	Fitz Raynold.
Filius Ricardi,	Fitz Richard.
Filius Roberti,	Fitz Robert.
Filius Rogeri,	Fitz Roger.
Filius Simeonis,	Fitz Simon.
Filius Stephani,	} Fitz Stephen, commonly { called Stephenson.
Filius Thomasi,	Fitz Thomas.
Filius Walteri,	Fitz Walter.
Filius Warreni,	Fitz Warren.
Filius Gulielmi,	Fitz William.
De Foliis,	Foulis.
De Fonte Australi,	Southwel.
De Fonte Limpido,	Sherbourne.
De Fontibus,	Wells.
De Fonte Ebrardi,	Fonteverard.
De Forti scuto,	Fortescue.



Flavus,	Blund, Blount.
De Fossa nova,	Newdyke.
De Fluctibus,	Flood.
Frescoburnus,	Freshburne.
De Frisca Marisca,	Freshmarsh.
De Frevilla, de Frisca villa,	Frevil, or Fretcheville.
De Fraxino,	Frene, Ashe.
De Fronte bovis,	De Grundbeof.

## G.

De Gandavo, et Gandavensis,	Gaunt.
De Glanvilla,	Glanvil.
De Gorniaco,	Gorney, or Gurney.
De Granavilla vel Greenvilla,	Greenvil, or Grenvile.
De Grandavilla,	Granvile.
De Geneva,	Genevile.
De Genisteto,	Bromfield.
De Grendona,	Greendon.
Giovanus,	Young.
De Grosso Venatore, Grandis vel Magnus Venator,	} Grosvenor.
De Grosso Monte,	
De Guntheri sylva,	Grismond.
	Gunter.

## H.

De Hantona,	Hanton.
De Harcla,	Harkley.
Havertus, Howardus,	Howard.
De Hosata, Hosatus vel Usus Mare,	} Hose or Hussey.

## I.

Jodocus,	Joice.
De Insula,	Lisle.
De Insula bona,	Lislebone.

De Insula fontis,	Lilburne.
De Ipra,	De Ipres.

## K.

De Kaineto, alias Caineto,	Keynes.
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## L.

De Laga,	Lee, Lea, and Leigh.
Lambardus,	Lambard, or Lambert.
De Langdona, vel Landa,	Langdon.
De Lato Campo,	Bradfield.
De Lato Vado,	Bradford.
De Lato pede,	Braidfoot.
De Læto loco,	Lettley.
De Leicestria,	Lester.
De Leica, and Lecha.	Leke.
Leuchenovus,	Lewkin.
De Lexintuna,	Lexington.
Laurentii filius,	Lawson.
De Limesi,	Limsie.
De Linna,	Linne.
De Lisoriis,	Lisurs, Lisors.
De Logiis,	Lodge.
De Longo campo,	Longchamp.
De Longo prato,	Longmede.
De Longa spata,	Longespee.
De Longa villa,	Longville.
Lupus,	Woolf, Love, Loo.
Lupellus,	Lovel, or Lovet.

## M.

Macer,	Le Meyre.
De Mala platea, and de Malo passu,	} Malpas.
Magnus Venator,	
	Grosvenor.

De Magna Villa, and de Mandavilla,	} Mandeville.
De Magromonte,	Grosmount, or Gromount.
De Mala terra,	Mauland.
De Malis manibus,	Malmains.
Malus catulus,	Malchin, ( <i>quasi</i> 'bad puppy' !)
De Malo lacu,	Mauley.
Male conductus, vel de Malo conductu,	} Malduit.
De Malo leone,	Malleon ( <i>quasi</i> 'bad lion').
De Malo visu,	Malvisin.
Malus leporarius,	{ Maleverer, Mallieure, com- monly Mallyvery.
Malus lupellus,	Maulovel, Mallovel.
De Maneriis,	Manners.
De Marchia,	March.
Marescallus,	Mareschal, or Marchal.
De Marci vallibus,	Martival.
De Meduana,	Maine.
De Media villa,	Middleton.
De Melsa,	Mews.
Medicus,	Leech.
De Micenis,	Meschines.
De Mineriis,	Miners, or Minours.
De Molendinis, Molendinarius,	Molines.
De Moelis,	Moelles.
De Monasteriis,	Musters, or Masters.
Monachus,	Moigne, Monk.
De Monte canisto,	Montchensey.
De Monte Hermerii,	Monthermer.
De Monte fixo,	Montfitchet.
De Monte pesono, De Monte pessulano, Monte pissonis, vel De Monte pissoris,	} Montpesson, vulgo Mom- pesson.
De Monte Jovis, De Monte Gaudii,	} Montjoy.

De Monte acuto,	Montacute.
De Monte alto,	Montalt, or Moald.
De Monte Gomeriæ,	Montgomery.
De Monte Hegonis,	Monthegon.
De Monte forti,	Montfort.
De Monte aquilæ,	Mounteagle.
De Mortuo Mari,	Mortimer.
Ad Murum,	Walton.
De Musco campo,	Muschamp.
De Mowbraia,	Mowbray.

## N.

De Nevilla and de Nova villa,	Nevil.
Nigellus,	Niele, or Neal.
De Novo burgo,	Newburgh.
De Novo loco,	Newark.
De Novo castello,	Newcastle.
De Nodariis vel Nodoriis,	Nowres.
Norriscus,	Norris.
De Norwico,	Norwich.
De Nova terra,	Newland.
De Nova mercatu,	Newmarch ( <i>quasi New-market</i> ).

## O.

De Oileio, and Oili, and Oilius,	} D'Oily.
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## P.

Pagenelli,	Pagnells, or Painels.
De Pavilliano, Pietonus.	Peiton.
De Parva villa,	Littleton.
Parmentarius,	Taylor.(?)
De Palude,	Puddle, Marsh.
De Pascua lapidosâ,	Stanley.
De Pavilidro, and Pauliaco,	Paveley.
De Pedeplanco,	Pauncefot.



De Peccato,	Pecche vel Pecke.
Pelliparius,	Skinner.
De Ferrariis,	Perrers.
De Petraponte,	Pierepont, vulgarly Perpoint.
De Pictavia,	Peyto.
De Plantageneta,	Plantagenet.
Ad Pontem,	Paunton.
De Porcellis vel Purcellis,	Purcell.
Le Poure,	Power.
De Praeriis,	Praers.
De Pulchro capellisio,	Fairfax.
De Puteaco,	Pusae, commonly Pudsey.
Q.	
De Querceto,	Cheney.
De Quinciato,	Quincy.
R.	
De Ralega vel Regeneia,	Raleigh.
De Radeona,	Rodney.
De Redveriiis, De Ripariis, } Rigidii, De Riperia, }	Rivers.
Reginaldus,	Reynolds.
De Rico monte,	Richmond.
Rotarius,	Wheeler.
De Rubra spatha,	{ Rouxcarrier, Roussir, Rooper, Roper.*
De Rupe forti,	Rochfort.
De Rupe, Rupibus, Rupinus,	Roche, Rock.
De Rubro clivo,	Radcliff.
De Rubra Manu,	Redmain.
Rufus,	Rouse.
De Rupe scissa,	Cutcliffe.

\* "There is a very antient family of the Ropers in Cumberland, who have lived immemorially near a quarry of *red spate* there, from whence they first took the surname of Rubra-Spathâ."—Wright.

S.

De Sabaudia,	Savoy.
De Sacra quercu,	Holyoak.
De Sacra fago,	Hollebeach.
De Sacro bosco,	Hollywood.
De Sacro fonte,	Holybrook.
De Saio,	Say.
Sagittarius,	Archer.
De Salceto,	Saucey.
De Salicosa mara,	Wilmore.
De Salchavilla,	Salkeld.
De Salicosa vena,	Salvein.
De Salso marisco,	Saltmarsh.
De Saltu capellæ,	Sacheverel.
Salvagijs,	Savage.
De Sancto Mauro,	St. Maur, or Seymour.
De Sancto Laudo,	Sentlo, or Senlo.
De Sancta Terra,	Holyland.
De Sancta Clara,	St. Clare, Sencleer, Sinclair.
De Sancto Medardo,	Semark.
De Sancto Amando,	St. Amond.
De Sancto Albano,	St. Alban.
De Sancto Audemaro,	St. Omer.
De Sancto Lizio, and Sylvaneclensis,	} Senlez, Seyton.
De Sancta Ermina,	Armine.
De Sancta Fide,	St. Faith.
De Sancto Mauricio,	St. Morris.
De Sancto Wallerico,	St. Wallere.
De Sancto Leodegario,	St. Leger, vulgo Sallenger.
De Sancta Barbara,	Senbarb, vulgo Simberb.
De Sancto Petro,	Sampier.
De Sancto Paulo,	Sampol, or Sample.
De Sancto Lupo,	Sentlow.

De Sancto Audæno,	St. Owen.
De Sancto Gelasio,	Singlis.
De Sancto Martino,	Semarton.
De Sandwico,	Sandwich.
De Sancto Quintinio,	St. Quintin.
De Sancto Alemondo,	Salmon.
De Sancto Vedasto,	Foster.
De Saxo ferrato,	Ironston, vulgo Ironzon.
De Scalariis,	Scales.
De Sicca villa,	Drytown, or Sackville.
Sitsiltus, alias Cecilius,	Sitsilt, or Cecil.
De Solariis,	Solers.
De Spineto,	Spine.
De Stagno,	Poole.
De Stipite sicco,	De la Zouch.*
De Stratone,	Stretton.
Super Tysam,	Surteys, Surtees.
De Sudburia,	Sudbury.
De Suthleia, and Suttleia,	Suthley, or Sudley.
De Sylva,	Weld.

## T.

De Tanaia,	Taney.
De Tankardivilla,	Tankerville.
Teutonicus,	Tey.
De Tulka,	Toke, Tuke.
De Turbidavilla,	Turberville.
Turchetissus,	Turchill.
De Turri,	Towers.
De Parva Turri,	Torel, Tirel.
De Turpi vado,	Fulford.

\* For William de la Zouch, archbishop of Yorke, is so called in this verse, for his valour in an encounter against the Scottishmen at Bearparke, 1342:

“Est pater inuictus *sicco de stipite dictus.*”

*Camden, Rem., p. 133.*

## V.

De Vado Saxi,	Stanford.
De Vado boum,	Oxford.
De Valle torta,	Vautort.
De Valle,	Wale.
De Valentia,	Valence.
De Vallibus,	Vaux.
De Vesci,	Vesey.
De Veteri aula,	Oldhall, Oldham.
De Veteri ponte,	Vipont, or Vipount.
De Vicariis,	Viccars.
De Villa torta,	Crocketon.
De Villariis,	Villers.
De Villa magna,	Mandevile.
De Vino salvo,	Vinesalf.
De Umbrosa quercu,	Dimoak, now Dymock.
De Urtica,	Lorti, Lort.

## W.

De Warrenna,	Warren.
De Warnevilla vel Willough- bæus,	} Willoughby.
De Watelega,	
	Wateley, Wheatley.

I have mentioned several Latin surnames in the various chapters of this work ; the following may be added as still in use :

<i>Ager,</i>	<i>Minor,</i>	<i>Pater,</i>
<i>Arcus,</i>	<i>Sutor,</i>	<i>Frater,</i>
<i>Nox,</i>	<i>Honor,</i>	<i>Felix,</i>
<i>Rex,</i>	<i>Vigor,</i>	<i>Sylvester,</i>
<i>Radix,</i>	<i>Latus,</i>	<i>Probus.</i>
<i>Major,</i>	<i>Lignum,</i>	



## Addenda et Corrigenda.

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### VOL. I.

P. 11. The Norwegian king, *Barefoot*, spent much of his time in Scotland, where he adopted the Celtic costume prevalent in that country. The absence of the nether garment excited so much surprise, on his return to Norway, that he acquired the sobriquet of 'Barefoot.'

P. 46. The *IN* and *OF* in lines 22 and 23 should be transposed. *Of*, implies possession; *in*, residence only.

P. 52. *Estarling*, was a name given to the inhabitants of any country eastward of England, particularly to those of the Hanse Towns. The pure coinage introduced by them, temp. Rich. I, gave rise to the expression 'easterling' or 'sterling' money. In the course of ages, this epithet, at first metaphorically applied, has come to designate anything excellent or genuine. Camden is my authority for the statement that *Stradling* is a corruption of *Estarling*. (See also p. 195 of this volume.)

P. 125, &c. *Gilmour*, anglicised to *Gilmore*, was the designation of the henchman or follower of a chief in Scotland. It is believed to be derived from the Celtic "gillie-mohr," great servant.

P. 157. In addition to the Scottish names with the prefix *MAC*, may be mentioned *McIntosh*, the son of the leader; *McNabb*, the son of the abbot; and *McPherson*, the son of the parson.

## VOL. II.

P. 8. *Dalzell*. I am informed that no word approaching this, either in sound or orthography, is to be found in the Celtic tongue. This part of the legend is consequently unworthy of the least credit. The name is probably local. Perhaps one half of the names in my chapter on 'Historical Surnames' would, on strict investigation, be found to belong to the same class. I cannot, however, regret having given insertion to them, connected as they are with curious legends, some circumstances of which may be founded on actual occurrences.

P. 10. *Napier*. The legend respecting the origin of this name, though sanctioned by several respectable writers, must be rejected as a mere fiction. In the medieval records of Scotland, the name is written *Le Naper*, and it was doubtless derived from an office antiently belonging to the royal court, ranging with *Le Botiler*, *Le Gros Veneur*, &c. In England, William de Hastings, temp. Hen. I, held the manor of Ashele, co. Norfolk, by the service of taking charge of the *napery* (table-cloths and linen), at the coronation of the English kings.\*

\* Blount's Tenures, p. 13.

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